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'Quad' Powers Agree To Create World Trade Body

OW0102010994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0020 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Geneva, Jan 31 KYODO—Senior trade negotiators from the so-called "quad" economic powers have reached a provisional agreement to establish the proposed World Trade Organization (WTO) on January 1, 1995, trade sources said Monday [31 January].

The pact under the Uruguay round of multilateral trade talks, completed December 15, calls for the creation of a more powerful world trade watchdog by July 1, 1995. But its establishment has been quickened at the request of the secretariat of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The United States and Canada have already accepted the request, while the European Union has indicated its approval. Japan has not lodged any objections to the idea.

The sources said the only uncertainty remains over the timing of the body's creation, despite the agreement between the four groups, because each of over 100 participating parties needs to ratify the proposal.

Also at the four-way talks, the U.S. urged Japan to reopen negotiations on proposals to scrap or reduce tariffs on four items.

The sources said Japan resisted U.S. pressure, citing the tariff problems already resolved at the Uruguay round of talks. But they said the U.S. is likely to restate its point when U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor arrives in Tokyo for trade talks Tuesday.

The U.S. has proposed ending tariffs on wood products, copper and white liquor and a tariff cut for leather products.

UN Population Meeting Ends With Declaration

OW2701092894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0652 GMT 27 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO—A United Nations-sponsored meeting on population and development concluded Thursday [27 January] with a declaration urging governments to curb population growth.

The two-day conference was held at the United Nations University in Tokyo.

"Population growth is a major obstacle to the alleviation of poverty, sustained socioeconomic development, and the improvement of the status of women," said the draft text of the Tokyo declaration of the meeting of eminent persons on population and development.

The meeting, also sponsored by the Foreign Ministry, was held in preparation for the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) slated for September in Cairo.

"We...call upon all governments and intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations to do their utmost to make the (Cairo) conference a milestone in the global effort to eradicate poverty and socioeconomic inequality, to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development, to improve the status and role of women and to reduce population growth," it said.

The United Nations has predicted the world population, now at 5.6 billion, will increase to 10 billion by 2050.

The declaration urged developing countries to integrate population issues into national development planning, and developed nations to change their patterns of consumption and to curb overproduction in order to reduce the impact on the environment and on the use of resources.

It also urged "the world community...to increase their financial commitment to population and related activities in developing countries in order to reach the estimated amount of approximately 13 billion dollars...by the year 2000 and approximately 17 billion dollars by the year 2015 annually."

At a news conference held immediately after the meeting ended, International Planned Parenthood Federation President Fred Sai, vice chairman of the Tokyo meeting, said, "one thing which has come out here...is that...we have to start addressing population issues much more seriously."

He said the other point stressed through the discussion was the importance of "partnership between the developed and developing countries."

The news conference was also attended by Nafis Sadik, executive director of the U.N. Population Fund, U.N. University Rector Heitor Gurgulino de Souza, Egypt's National Population Council Secretary General Maher Mahran [name as received] and former Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, chairman of the gathering.

The 14-member panel of the meeting debated sustainable development, family planning and the status of women in relation to population.

The panel also included former World Bank President Robert McNamara, former Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado and former Kiribati President Jeremia T. Tabai.

Japan

Hosokawa Georgetown University Speech Previewed

OW0202132294 Tokyo KYODO in English 1309 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa will stress his commitment to continued political, economic and administrative reform in a speech to be delivered at Georgetown University in Washington next week, government sources said Wednesday [2 February]. The sources said Hosokawa will make a commitment to continuing the process of change now that his administration has successfully tackled its top priority task, with the passage of political reform bills through the Diet.

Hosokawa leaves for Washington on February 10 for talks with U.S. President Bill Clinton the following day.

The sources said he will also call for a strengthening of the Japan-U.S. relationship, underlining the two countries' vital roles in the world economy and in ensuring peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

Hosokawa will deliver a 15-minute speech in English just as he did last September at the U.N. General Assembly session, the sources said. As his audience will consist mainly of university students, Hosokawa will open the floor to questions after his speech.

He will emphasize his efforts to achieve domestic political reform because it is a precondition for meeting the widespread expectations that Japan make greater international contributions. The prime minister will stress his intention to further promote deregulation, take into account the interests of consumers and establish a system whereby policy decision-making is more transparent.

Hosokawa is also scheduled to make a television appearance, when he will have the opportunity to address the American public directly.

Kumagai-Kantor Meeting Ends 'Inconclusively'

OW0202131294 Tokyo KYODO in English 1301 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and Japanese Trade Minister Hiroshi Kumagai met Wednesday [2 February] in a bid to break a stalemate in bilateral trade talks but the talks apparently ended inconclusively. The talks were aimed at reaching a new trade framework between the two countries with attention focused on improving American access to Japan's auto and auto parts markets, an official at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] told a press conference.

The official declined to disclose the contents of the talks, saying both parties agreed to keep silent for now. But he described the atmosphere of the meeting as "friendly but serious."

After emerging from the meeting, Kantor told reporters the talks were "interesting."

After the press conference, another MITI official said the trade stance by both Tokyo and Washington basically remained unchanged throughout the meeting, hinting that the two nations failed to bridge a gap over the framework talks.

The Kumagai-Kantor meeting followed talks held earlier in the day between Kantor and Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata, results of which were also withheld in a briefing for reporters.

Kantor arrived in Tokyo on Tuesday in an effort to break a stalemate in the bilateral trade talks ahead of the February 11 summit between Japan's Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and U.S. President Bill Clinton.

The most contentious part of the new framework is how to define "objective criteria" as a way to gauge foreign penetration of Japan's market. Tokyo says it is against any setting of numerical targets as it would lead to managed trade, while Washington is pushing for a framework based on an accord reached between Clinton and then Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in July 1993, which called for the introduction of "sets of objective criteria, either qualitative or quantitative or both."

The official at the briefing said Kumagai and Kantor are unlikely to resume talks during Kantor's stay in Japan. It is not known when Kantor will leave Tokyo.

He said he is not certain whether or not subcabinet-level trade talks between the two countries will be held over the weekend as reported.

Meeting Described as 'Severe'

OW0202111394 Tokyo KYODO in English 1103 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and Japanese Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata appeared Wednesday [2 February] to have disagreed over Washington's demand to set numerical targets to measure the progress of foreign access to Japanese markets, government sources said.

Kantor, who flew to Tokyo on Tuesday in a bid to break the deadlock in bilateral trade framework talks, urged Hata to accept the demand for "objective criteria." But Hata refused, the sources said.

Officials declined to reveal what Kantor and Hata discussed. The two men will hold another round of talks on Thursday, the sources said.

"It's been an interesting afternoon," Kantor told reporters after emerging from the meeting with Hata. He did not elaborate.

Asked if he was still optimistic about the framework talks, Kantor replied, "realistic."

A Foreign Ministry official, who spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity, refused to comment on whether Kantor and Hata had failed to close the gap in their talks, but described the 90-minute meeting as "severe."

Kantor and Hata, who is also deputy prime minister, discussed the framework talks in general, not specific terms, the official said. The official said the Japanese side and the United States both reiterated their basic stances in the talks.

Foreign Ministry sources said Kantor did not openly threaten to impose sanctions if the framework talks failed but rather explained that the negotiations are being held to avoid bilateral trade friction.

On the macroeconomic front, Hata told the U.S. side that the government is scheduled to hammer out an economic stimulus package soon, the sources said.

Also in the talks, Kantor congratulated the Japanese Government on its passage of political reform bills, ministry officials said.

Hata told Kantor the Japanese Government is doing its best to prepare for the February 11 meeting between Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and President Bill Clinton, they said.

Japanese and U.S. officials are supposed to draw up a progress report on the framework negotiations before Hosokawa meets Clinton in Washington, the third time the two leaders will have met since Hosokawa assumed his post last August. But the two sides remain deadlocked over the definition of the "objective criteria," with the U.S. calling for setting numerical targets to measure foreign access to Japanese markets and Japan opposing any indicators on the grounds they could lead to managed trade.

On Tuesday, Hata told a news conference Japan will never accept the U.S. demand to set numerical targets, saying "such criteria run counter to Japanese Government efforts to promote deregulation."

The framework accord, concluded last July, calls for a "highly significant decrease" in Japan's current account surplus and promised "tangible progress" in access and sales of foreign goods in the Japanese market.

The two governments designated the Japanese automobile market, insurance, and government procurement in telecommunications and medical equipment as priority areas that must be settled before the February meeting. Negotiations on key pending issues are being held in Tokyo this week.

Kantor, accompanied by W. Bowman Cutter, deputy presidential assistant for economic policy, is scheduled to hold separate talks later in the day with Hiroshi Kumagai, minister of international trade and industry. He is also expected to meet Hosokawa and Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii during his stay in Japan.

Ministry: Balance of Payments Figures Delayed

OW0202040294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0338 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—The Finance Ministry said Wednesday [2 February] it will postpone the release of December balance of payments data until Monday, instead of Friday as scheduled.

The ministry said in a statement that the postponement is due to a delay in compiling related statistics because the ministry has to announce data on both December and calendar 1993.

Balance of payments data includes the closely watched current account and balance of trade statistics.

The postponement of the release date comes as U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor is visiting Japan on a trade mission aimed at breaking an impasse in bilateral market-opening trade talks.

In the framework trade talks, Washington has been demanding that Japan set numerical targets for imports to help assess progress in reducing Japan's massive surplus in bilateral trade.

Kantor, accompanied by Bowman Cutter, deputy director of the National Economic Council and chief negotiator in the talks, is to meet Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata, Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii and International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai on Wednesday.

He is also slated to meet Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Thursday.

The delay in release of December balance of payments data involves a similar postponement of the release of data on Japanese equity investments abroad and foreign equity investments in Japan until Monday, instead of Friday.

Easing of Firms Buying Own Stock Rules Urged

OW0202085494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0831 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—Easing of rules on companies buying their own stock, a measure long sought by business and securities circles to reinvigorate the stock market, could be implemented as early as this year, according to a proposal made by a government advisory panel on Wednesday [2 February]. The government will include the step in a package of emergency pump-priming measures to be announced Thursday.

Companies have so far been virtually banned from buying back their own shares. The easing will allow companies to buy their own stock from the secondary market, thus soaking up the shares, which are in abundance since the late 1980s, and hopefully activating the stock market.

Conditions under which companies will be allowed to own their own stock include buying with the intention of later discarding the shares, or selling them off to their in-house employee shareholding organizations after the acquisition.

The Legislative Council, an advisory body to the justice minister, is expected to submit a report on the revision of the commercial law on February 16, enabling the justice minister to present the proposal to the current Diet session. The proposed amendment will allow companies to make buy-backs if they get approval at their regular shareholders' meetings.

The current law requires approval from all shareholders, a requirement that has proved virtually impossible to fulfill.

Companies will be restricted from buying back more than the amount set aside for payment of stock dividends.

When they buy with the intention of selling off the stocks to their in-house organization, the upper limit to their purchases will be 3 percent of the outstanding shares.

They will be required to sell off the shares within six months. An extension of the six-month period will be allowed if the in-house organization does not have the necessary funds to buy the stocks.

LDP Adopts 15-Trillion-Yen Stimulus Package

OW0202044294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0409 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—The opposition Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] on Wednesday [2 February] adopted a 15 trillion yen economic stimulus package for presentation to the coalition government of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, party officials said. They said LDP President Yohei Kono will meet with Hosokawa later Wednesday to ask his government to implement the eight-point package.

The package, adopted by the party's special panel to combat the recession, includes a proposal for an "early implementation of major income tax cuts," the officials said.

The proposal did not mention the size of income tax cuts, but Ryutaro Hashimoto, chairman of the party's Policy Affairs Research Council, told reporters it should be more than 5 trillion yen.

The program also called for a substantial reduction or a two-year freeze of the land value tax and urged the reorganization of financial institutions to improve the nation's financial system.

Hosokawa, Kono, Others Meet on Stimulus Package

OW0202090694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0853 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—Opposition leader Yohei Kono urged Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Wednesday [2 February] to implement a 15 trillion yen economic stimulus package. Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura told a news conference that Kono, president of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), explained his party's economy-spurring program adopted Tuesday.

Hosokawa replied that he will try to reflect the LDP's ideas as far as possible in the government's stimulus package his cabinet is to approve Thursday, Takemura said. The additional economic program is expected to amount to 15 trillion to 16 trillion yen, becoming Japan's largest pump-primer ever.

Earlier, Kono told reporters after emerging from talks with the premier, "I emphasized it would be a disaster if meaningful and substantial stimulus steps were not taken this time," he added.

During the 90-minute meeting, Hosokawa and Kono agreed on the need for a successful Japan-U.S. summit in Washington on February 11, Takemura said. Hosokawa will meet U.S. President Bill Clinton to assess progress in stalemated bilateral trade talks.

Although the LDP chief pressed a demand for a large-scale income tax cut to breathe new life into the stagnant economy, there was no discussion on how to offset the tax reduction, Takemura said.

The government and ruling coalition parties are making last-ditch efforts to reach a consensus over whether to link a major income tax cut to a future hike in the consumption tax.

Hosokawa was accompanied by Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata, Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii and Takemura.

Kono attended the meeting along with Ryutaro Hashimoto, chairman of the LDP's Policy Affairs Research Council.

Hosokawa and Kono concurred they will hold informal talks in the future, as the need arises, Takemura said.

The premier said he would like to meet again with Kono after returning from the United States to discuss the results of the meeting with Clinton, according to the chief cabinet secretary. Kono gave no clear response, Takemura said.

The LDP leader told reporters he will hold talks with the premier if he thinks it will be "meaningful," adding he has no plan to meet with Hosokawa on a regular basis.

Whether he will meet again with the premier, Kono said, depends on how much the LDP's economic stimulus program is reflected in the government's package.

Kono: 'Timing Is Important'

OW0202071?94 Tokyo KYODO in English 0703 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—The leader of the main opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) pressed Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Wednesday [2 February] to take urgent measures to shore up the languishing Japanese economy.

"I told him the timing is important in taking economy-spurring measures," Yohei Kono told reporters after emerging from a meeting with Hosokawa at the premier's official residence. "I also emphasized it would be a disaster if meaningful and substantial stimulus steps were not taken this time," he added.

Kono quoted Hosokawa as replying he will strive to do what is necessary to boost the economy as early as possible.

The Hosokawa cabinet is scheduled to announce Thursday a massive economic stimulus package expected to total 15 trillion to 16 trillion yen, Japan's largest pump-primer ever, to cope with the economic slump. Although the premier explained that his government and ruling coalition parties are in the final stage of building consensus on a large-scale income tax cut, he did not touch on how the government proposes to finance the tax reduction, Kono said.

On Japan-U.S. relations, Kono said he stressed the importance of Hosokawa having a successful summit with U.S. President Bill Clinton next week.

The Japanese and U.S. leaders will meet in Washington on February 11 to assess progress in the bilateral framework trade negotiations.

In the meeting with Kono, Hosokawa was accompanied by Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata, Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii and Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura.

Kono attended the meeting along with Ryutaro Hashimoto, chairman of the LDP's Policy Affairs Research Council.

Asked about possible future meetings with Hosokawa, Kono replied he will confer with the premier if he thinks it will be "meaningful," adding he has no plan to hold such talks on a regular basis.

Local FY94 Fiscal Program To Grow by 3 Percent

OW0202093894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0857 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—The local fiscal program, the basis of local government budgets, will grow 3 percent in real terms in fiscal 1994 from the current year to about 79 trillion yen, government sources said Wednesday [2 February].

The Home Affairs Ministry and the Finance Ministry will jointly announce Saturday an outline of the program for the year beginning next April 1. Under the program, the amount of public works projects sponsored by local governments will increase 12 percent to 18.5 trillion yen for the fourth consecutive double-digit rise, the sources said.

The projects are intended to help boost economic recovery.

At the same time, local government bond issues will increase 40 percent to cover revenue shortfalls in local taxes and taxes allocated to local governments, they said. The shortfalls are expected because of the prolonged national economic recession.

Coalition Tries To Break Stalemate Over Tax

OW0202131794 Tokyo KYODO in English 1306 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—The ruling coalition stepped up efforts Wednesday [2 February] to break a deadlock over a proposal to raise the rate of the 3 percent consumption tax to offset planned income tax cuts, coalition officials said.

Most coalition partners agreed to back a proposal by the Finance Ministry to offset the tax cuts of 6 trillion yen with a 4 percentage point raise in the tax rate to 7 percent, the officials said.

However, the Social Democratic Party (SDP) [of Japan] [SDPJ], the largest of the seven coalition members, balked at the proposal to balance an expected revenue shortfall from the tax cuts with an increase in the tax, imposed on sales of most goods and services in Japan, they said.

The coalition partners also expressed support for a Finance Ministry proposal to legislate a provision that would oblige the government to raise the consumption tax after a moratorium of one year, they said.

The SDP voiced its objections to the proposal. The SDP has many opponents of the consumption tax as it bolstered its parliamentary strength in the 1989 election on an anticonsumption tax platform.

The non-SDP coalition partners are trying to persuade the SDP to accept the revenue-balancing plan, they said. The coalition tussle has intensified nine days before

Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa flies to the United States for talks with President Bill Clinton.

Hosokawa, whose administration is under U.S. pressure to revive the floundering Japanese economy by stimulating stagnant consumer spending, is expected to mention some pump-priming fiscal package featuring a tax cut at the meeting with Clinton.

The non-SDP coalition partners are trying to alleviate the SDP aversion to the tax by putting forward a proposal to change the name of the tax to "welfare-purpose tax" from "consumption tax," the officials said.

As the coalition's political schedule obliges it to adopt a comprehensive stimulative package by Thursday, Hosokawa may have to use his leadership to decide on the tax hike even at the risk of antagonizing the SDP, they said.

Earlier in the day, SDP Secretary General Wataru Kubo told a meeting of coalition leaders, "The SDP will absolutely not tolerate a raise in the rate of the consumption tax." However, other coalition partners are calling for the raise to be implemented by the end of 1994, saying they do not want to antagonize voters before a House of Councillors election expected in the summer of 1995.

Meanwhile, Hosokawa may step up cooperation with the opposition Liberal Democratic Party in working out the details of the economic package aimed at balancing the income tax cut with the consumption tax raise, even if it alienates the socialists, coalition sources said.

Hosokawa, in a meeting earlier in the day with LDP President Yohei Kono, asked for an opportunity to hold consultations after flying back from Washington, the sources said.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura said, "It is quite natural for the premier who represents the coalition and the LDP president who leads the main opposition party to hold consultations over crucial issues whenever necessary." However, Ichiro Ozawa, the chief coalition strategist and co- leader of the No. 2 ruling party Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), expressed displeasure with the Hosokawa-Kono meeting.

An SDP official warned the prime minister against approaching the LDP, saying the implications of the day's meeting with Kono were "different from ceremonial talks between the LDP and SDP when we were in opposition." The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said, "I suspect that Hosokawa and Takemura are now in favor of severing ties with Shinseito and the SDP, if it helps form an alliance with the LDP."

After wrapping up the eleventh-hour compromise on political reform last Friday, Hosokawa told a news conference in an apparently conciliatory tone he had long sought a meeting talk with Kono.

SDPJ Officials Urge Quitting Coalition

OW0202140894 Tokyo KYODO in English 1352 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—Some senior officials of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) [of Japan] [SDPJ] on Wednesday [2 February] urged that the party quit the seven-party coalition government of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, SDP sources said. At a meeting of the party's policy-making Central Executive Committee, the officials expressed strong opposition to a government proposal to rename the consumption tax to "welfare-purpose" tax and raise the rate from the present 3 percent to 7 percent, the sources said.

Among the opponents was Shun Oide, a party vice chairman, the sources said.

The Hosokawa cabinet, launched last August, includes six ministers from the SDP, the largest of the seven ruling parties. They are Transport Minister Shigeru Ito, Construction Minister Kozo Igarashi, Home Affairs Minister Kanju Sato, National Land Agency Director General Kosuke Uehara, Economic Planning Agency Director General Manae Kubo and Sadao Yamahana, minister in charge of political reform.

Tax Panel Leader Demands Tax Cut, Hike Link

OW0202111194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0936 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—The government's Tax Commission stressed again Wednesday [2 February] that an income tax cut to stimulate the economy must be linked by law to a consumption tax hike.

Commission chief Kan Kato told reporters that "almost 90 percent" of the advisory tax panel members reaffirmed at an afternoon meeting that the timing and rate of a consumption tax increase must be spelled out in the same tax reform law that cuts income tax. Kato also rejected proposals to decouple the two measures but issue a government statement that the consumption tax would be raised later to pay for the tax cut.

Asked about the reported plan, Kato said, "I think we would not be able to accept it."

He repeatedly stressed that the two issues must be dealt with explicitly to elicit the support of the people and said a vague handling of the matter would be "hiding" something from the people. The result would be "uncertainty and unease" among the public, which could damage the economy, Kato said.

The issue of linking the income tax cut and an increase in the consumption tax rate has torn at the governing coalition, which must settle the matter to fashion the economic stimulus package that Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa has promised to announce Thursday. The largest coalition member, the Social Democratic

Party, opposes raising the 3 percent consumption tax, while the Finance Ministry insists that the two must be linked by law.

Kato, a Keio University professor, noted that Hosokawa has vowed to respect the commission's recommendations on the tax issue and said he trusts the prime minister will do so. He said it is mistaken to think that raising the consumption tax would hurt the economy.

Simulations show that consumption picks up on "last-minute demand" as implementation of the tax hike approaches and that even if it declines temporarily after the hike, consumption recovers within a half year, he said. Public support for the consumption tax has increased since it was introduced five years ago and the need for structural reform must be explained clearly to the public, Kato said.

The current prolonged recession is structural, not cyclical, and this would be a good time for structural reform, including revamping the tax system, he said.

Kato said the panel would probably meet again Friday and Monday b.t that it has largely determined the "direction" of its final fiscal 1994 tax reform report, which is to be issued Tuesday.

North Korea

KCNA Cites Ackerman's Comments on Patriots

SK0202042494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 2 (KCNA)—Gary Ackerman, chairman of the Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives of the United States, was interviewed by a reporter of the newspaper USA TODAY on January 26 on the decision of the U.S. administration to deploy Patriot missiles in South Korea.

He expressed apprehensions, saying the deployment of Patriot missiles will no doubt cause complex problems. We must foresee a rather strong protest and denunciation from North Korea, he added.

U.S. Nuclear Weapons Said 'Deployed' in South

SK0202105094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1036 GMT 2 Feb 94

["United States, Nuclear Criminal on Korean Peninsula"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 2 (KCNA)—The United States is the nuclear criminal on the Korean peninsula.

The nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula arose from the introduction of nuclear weapons into South Korea by the United States.

The United States had no sooner unilaterally scrapped subparagraph 13d of the Korean Armistice Agreement banning the introduction of combat equipment and supplies from outside Korea in June, 1957 than it officially declared through an announcement of the U.S. Army authorities that it would start arming the U.S. troops present in South Korea with nuclear weapons. Then it shipped 280 mm a-guns and Honest John nuclear missiles into South Korea in February 1958, and deployed them near Uijongbu close to the Military Demarcation Line. The U.S. imperialists have introduced over 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons into South Korea in more than 30 years since then, turning South Korea into their biggest nuclear forward base in the Far East.

The density of U.S. nuclear weapon deployment in South Korea is one per 100 square kilometers, or quadruple that in the NATO nations.

The United States has not ceased provocative acts threatening the DPRK, wielding the large number of nuclear weapons in South Korea.

All types of nuclear-capable planes ranging from B-52 nuclear strategic bomber to F-16 tactical nuclear bomber and nuclear weapons from intermediary-range Lance nuclear missile to back pack nuke of Green Beret commandoes are mobilized in the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise, a test nuclear war, against the DPRK annually staged in South Korea since 1976. Even E-4B, a nuclear war commanding plane is hurled into it.

The United States announced the "withdrawal" of nuclear weapons from South Korea at the end of 1991, yielding to the strong demand of the Korean people and the world progressive people for the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula and withdrawal of U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea. But it revealed for itself that its withdrawal of nuclear weapons was a lie by opposing a comprehensive inpsection of the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea which was raised by the DPRK.

And the United States and the South Korean puppets spread the fiction of "suspected nuclear development by the North" in order to mislead public opinion.

The United States, not satisfied with the deployment of a large number of nuclear weapons in South Korea, is going to massively introduce sophisticated "Patriot" missiles into South Korea. And it openly declared that it would continue to stage other joint military exercises larger in scale, even if the "Team Spirit" were suspended, taking issue again with the fictitious "nuclear problem" of the DPRK.

As facts show, the outcries of the United States and the South Korean puppets over the non-existent "nuclear issue" of the North remind us of a thief crying "stop thief
"

Commentary Praises 31 Jan Ministry Statement

SK0202091594 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 1 Feb

[Commentary by station commentator Yun Pyong-son: "The United States Should Not Make a Miscalculation"]

[Text] The United States is creating a grave crisis which can lead the situation to a catastrophe [paguk] by overturning the promise made with us at a decisive juncture when the DPRK-U.S. talks can be rescued from a stalemate and when the prospects are opened for a package solution of the nuclear problem.

Regarding this, a spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry issued a statement strongly denouncing the brazen-faced betrayal of the United States and declaring our position that in the event the United States overturns the promise made with us, we no longer are bound to the promise made with the United States; that if the United States does not want the DPRK-U.S. talks, neither do we want it; and that if the United States wants to make any other choice, we will also choose the reciprocal countermeasure [sangunghan taeung pangdo].

This is indeed correct. As everyone knows, in the DPRK-U.S. contact held at the end of last year, the two sides agreed that they will hold a third round of talks, that the United States will stop the Team Spirit joint military exercise, and that we will accept a limited inspection [hanjongdoen pomwiui sachal] necessary to ensure the continuity of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] safeguards on our nuclear sites, as a measure for a package solution of the nuclear problem.

Accordingly, we have endeavored in all our efforts to do our part. However, the IAEA Secretariat foolishly attempted to realize a full-scope inspection, [chonmyon sachal] which is not even an object of discussion, and the United States is urging us to accept it by setting a time limit with an ultimatum-like attitude that if we do not accept the agency's demand, the third round of the DPRK-U.S. talks cannot be held and it cannot but take the road to impose sanctions.

What is graver is that by once again bringing up the issue of conducting special inspections of our two military sites, which have nothing to do with our nuclear activity, the United States stands in a position of making international-pressure commotions against us. This is a brazen-faced betrayal and challenge of the party to the dialogue.

To proceed with dialogue and resolve the issue, one should faithfully keep the promise in equal position. If any one of the parties breaks faith with the other, putting forward its unreasonable demand [pudanghan yogu] to the other, there can be no dialogue and the problem cannot be solved.

The United States is, however, pursuing a dishonest motive by breaking both the promise and faith and insisting on its robbery demands. Isn't this a betrayal of the party to the dialogue and an intolerable crime blocking the road for the peaceful resolution of the nuclear issue?

The whole world recognizes that we are not developing nuclear weapons. The nuclear threat on the Korean peninsula is caused by the United States, which drew nuclear weapons in South Korea running counter to our nation's opinion, and the threat is aggravating because the United States has threatened us with nuclear weapons by ceaselessly conducting nuclear war exercises.

Therefore, the responsible party for resolving the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula is none other than the United States. It is a robbery act as if the burglar is holding the stick with which the United States is creating blockage for the peaceful resolution of the nuclear issue by picking on us about the non-existent nuclear issue, talking about full-scope inspection [chonmyon sachal] and sanctions. Contrary to its repeated promise of not using any armed forces, including nuclear weapons, and of not using them as a means of threat, the United States is trying to crush [apsal] our Republic by committing large-scale nuclear war exercises by all means.

This is proven by the facts that U.S. official circles are raving that if the Team Spirit joint military exercise cannot be conducted, then they plan to continue other joint military exercises—in Hawaii if not in South Korea; that the United States is full-fledgedly hurrying to deploy Patriot missiles in South Korea; and that an intelligence support team composed of specialists has been deployed to and is now in operation in South Korea.

The United States is only talking about the resolution of the nuclear issue through talks but in fact its aggressive strategy toward the DPRK has not changed a bit. All the facts clearly show that the United States has no intention at all to peacefully resolve the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula but invariably seeks only its inner intention to crush our Republic through strength. It is a miscalculation if the United States thinks its robbery pressure and military threats can threaten us. We love peace but would never beg for it. As declared in our Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement, if the United States chooses any other way, we will also choose a reciprocal countermeasure.

If a catastrophic situation is created on the Korean peninsula, the United States will take all the responsibility for the dear price resulted thereafter. The U.S. hard-line, conservative forces should look straight at our people's unshaken will and act prudently.

Russian Denial of Report on Nuclear Aid Cited

SK0202111494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Moscow, January 31 (KCNA)—The Russian paper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA January 28 reported that the chief of General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces

refuted the report of the Japanese weekly SHUKAN BUNSHUN about Russia's assistance in the missile and nuclear program of North Korea.

The chief of General Staff, according to the paper said the report of the Japanese weekly was based on a rude and open false document and it was a clear provocation motivated by the intention to throw a shadow on the Ministry of Defence and the general staff of Russia.

The paper said:

At the same time, the chief of general staff did not rule out that this would be beneficial only to those who seek to complicate the relations between Russia and North Korea.

That is right. The nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula is now presenting itself as a very crucial matter. As was stated recently by a high-ranking Russian diplomat, we consider the sanctions against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on which some countries insist are the worst means. Worse still, there are people who are trying to turn the complicated process of talks into an open pressure on Pyongyang.

It is not good to them to accuse Russia now of having helped the DPRK possess nuclear weapons. Is it?

KCNA: Soldiers 'Detained' by South Returned

SK0202042894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 2 (KCNA)—Corporal Kim Cnol-Chin and Private 1st Class Kim Kyong-chol of the Korean People's Security Forces, who had been kidnapped by the enemy while drifting in distress in the sea off the Tungsan Cape on the West Coast on January 26, came back to the socialist homeland through Panmunjom on February 1.

The South Korean puppets detained them, not sending them back to the North instantly, and tried to make them defect to South Korea by all sorts of appeasement and deception. They, however, could not break the revolutionary constancy and will of the a-match-for-a-hundred soldiers who have grown in the bosom of comrade supreme commander.

The South Korean puppets were compelled to send them back to the Northern half of the country by the stubborn protest of the detained soldiers and repeated demand of our side.

The soldiers were interviewed by reporters in our side's portion of Panmunjom.

They exposed the attempts of the South Korean puppets to induce them to defection. Saying that they could be embraced in the bosom of the socialist homeland as there was comrade supreme commander for them, they stated they would be loyal subjects and filial sons safeguarding comrade supreme commander as his rifles and shells.

South's Protest on Rice Market Opening Reported

SK0202044594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436 GMT 2 Feb 94

["20,000 S. Koreans Protest Agricultural Market Opening"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 2 (KCNA)—More than 20,000 farmers and students of South Korea held a peasants' rally against the anti-national agricultural market opening by the Kim Yong-sam traitorous group at university quarters in Seoul on February 1, according to radio reports from Seoul.

Sponsored by nine peasants' organisations including the National Federation of Peasants Associations (Chonnong), the ralliers denounced with bitter indignation the treacherous crime of the Kim Yong-sam puppet regime in selling off the markets of rice and other agricultural products to the United States.

In the resolution adopted at the rally, they said if the agricultural market is opened, the South Korean agriculture will go totally bankrupt and urged the authorities to put the market opening issue to a referendum. And they demanded that the "National Assembly" refuse to "ratify" the treacherous agricultural market opening.

At the end of the rally, they went over to a demonstration, loudly shouting "oppose agricultural market opening " and marched toward the U.S. Embassy, clashing with a large police force.

While the demonstrators and police were engaged in a seasaw battle, some 500 students of the demonstrators marched toward "Chongwadae" [presidential offices].

Synchronising with this protest in Seoul, as many 200 peasants of the North Cholla provincial branch of Chonnong headed for Seoul to join in it, while staging a demonstration on the Seoul-Pusan express highway.

Yi Ki-taek, chairman of the opposition Democratic Party, called upon politicians and people to join hands in the struggle against agricultural market opening.

ROK's Parole of Arrested Former Officials Noted

SK0202044294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 2 Feb 94

["Papers on Kim Yong-sam Group's 'Eradication of Irregularities'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 2 (KCNA)—The Kim Yong-sam group set free under the name of stay of execution or parol, some politicians, "ranking government officials" and former generals of the puppet Army whom it had arrested on the charge of involvement in

corruption and personnel irregularities in the puppet Army while making much ado under the "civilian" veil, as if it were doing a big thing.

This is a topic of press commentaries here today.

In a commentary titled "Arrest in Public and Release Through Back Door," NODONG SINMUN says:

The traitor Kim Yong-sam shouted himself hoarse about "reform" and "eradication of irregularities" under the "civilian" veil. This was, however, no more than a popularity-hunting tactics to improve his public image and a base "political retaliation" to revenge himself on political forces that had laid obstacles to his seizure of power and remove them from the political scene.

Whenever the rulers changed in South Korea, a loud advertizement was made about the "uprooting of irregularities," but it got nowhere anytime. [sentence as received]

If there was anything different in case of the traitor Kim Yong-sam, it was the greater pomp in the advertizement about "eradication". But it has turned out to have been an empty slogan as he set free the criminals.

It is an unpardonable crime of the traitor Kim Yong-sam to have fooled the popular masses with the signboard "uprooting of irregularities."

The traitor Kim Yong-sam is stringing out a high-flown jargon to appear "upright." But he is the chieftain of irregularities and the target of overthrow.

The traitor is not "liquidating irregularities" but persecuting and arresting people of conscience who exposed them.

Noting that the Kim Yong-sam group released the criminals who had been prosecuted under arrest on the charge of bribe taking and irregularities in personnel affairs of the Army in less than one year, MINJU CHOSON says: This shows that the puppets' patronage of the suspects of irregularities has entered an open stage.

Kim Il-song Sends Reply to Yasir 'Arafat

SK0102053394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 1 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on January 29 sent a message to Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, in reply to his message of solidarity on the New Year 1994.

In the reply message, President Kim Il-song said that the full solidarity of the Palestinians with the DPRK's efforts to denuclearise the Korean peninsula and reunify the country in the form of confederation is a great encouragement to the Korean people.

Expressing the belief that the friendly relations between the two peoples would grow stronger and develop, President Kim Il-song heartily wished the Palestinian president and people greater success in their struggle to restore their legitimate national rights and completely solve the Palestinian issue.

Kim Il-song Sends Message to Venezuelan President

SK0202115694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1048 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 2 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to Rafael Caldera Rodriguez upon his assumption of office as president of the Republic of Venezuela.

President Kim Il-song in his message expressed the belief that the friendly relations between the two countries of Korea and Venezuela would continue to develop in the idea of independence, peace and friendship and wished him great success in his work for the prosperity of the country.

Kim Il-song Meets With Gabonese Ambassador

SK0202113694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 2 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received Gabonese Ambassador Benjamin Legnongo-Ndumba to Korea today.

Present on the occasion was Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam.

The ambassador conveyed a personal letter and a gift of Gabonese President El Hadj Omar Bongo to President Kim Il-song.

President Kim Il-song expressed thanks for this and conversed with him.

Foreign Leaders Greet President Kim Il-song

SK0102052594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0446 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 1 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, exchanged New Year's cards with foreign state and party leaders.

He exchanged New Year's cards with Glavkos Kliridhis, president of Cyprus; President Shankar Dayal Sharma and Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao of India; Ali Kafi, chairman of the High State Committee of Algeria; Sanni Abacha, head of state and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of Nigeria; Nicephore Soglo, president of Benin; Ronald Venetiaan, president of Suriname; B. Yeltsin, president of Russian Federation; Otto Stich,

president of Switzerland; Thomas Klestil, federal president of Austria; Nir Mal Sen, general secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers and Peasants Socialist Party of Bangladesh; K.P. Silva, general secretary of the C.C., the Sri Lanka Communist Party; Iqbal Ahmed Khan, secretary-general of the Pakistan Muslim League; Khaled Bagdash, general secretary of the C.C., the Communist Party of Syria; Mamadou El Bechir Gologo, secretary general of the National Direction Committee of the Sudanese Union-African Democratic Rally in Mali; Jorge Ibanez Castro, first secretary of the C.C., the Bolivian Communist Party; Hardial Bains, national leader and first secretary of the Communist Party of Canada (Marxism-Leninism); Rene Mauge Mosquera, general secretary of the C.C., the Communist Party of Ecuador; Vassalo Anthony, general secretary of the C.C., the Communist Party of Malta; Alfred Sant, leader of the Malta Labour Party; Manuel Vargas Loureiro, chairman of the Democratic Renovation Party of Portugal; and Zbigniew Wiktor, chairman of the National Executive Committee of the Polish League of Communists "Proletariat".

He also received New Year's cards from Idris Deby, president and head of state of Chad; Mohammad Zahir Khan, chairman of the Bangladesh Nationalist Republican Party; and Peter Symon, general secretary of the C.C., the Socialist Party of Australia.

And he exchanged New Year greetings with Hungarian President Arpad Goncz.

Foreign Party Leaders Greet Kim Chong-il

SK0102052894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0450 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 1 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il exchanged New Year's cards with Nir Mal Sen, general secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers and Peasants Socialist Party of Bangladesh; Iqbal Ahmed Khan, secretary-general of the Pakistan Muslim League; Mamadou El Bechir Gologo, secretary general of the National Direction Committee of the Sudanese Union-African Democratic Rally in Mali; Amoussouvi Vignik Amedegnato, general secretary of the Togolese People's Rally; Manuel Vargas Loureiro, chairman of the Democratic Renovation Party of Portugal; Jorge Ibanez Castro, first secretary of the C.C., the Bolivian Communist Party; and Rene Mauge Mosquera, general secretary of the C.C., the Communist Party of Ecuador.

WPK Sends New Year Cards to Foreign Parties

SK0102052794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0447 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 1 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea exchanged New Year's cards with the Central Committees of the People's Party of Cambodia and the Mauritius Communist Party; Chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Communist Party of Finland (Unity) Yrjo Hakanen; the Central Committees of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement and the Communist Party of Portugal; the National Council of the Democratic Renovation Party of Portugal and the C.C., the Communist Party of Canada.

Foreign Party Leaders Hail New Year Address

SK0202043294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0409 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 2 (KCNA)—Messages hailing the New Year address of the great leader President Kim Il-song came from foreign party leaders.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Malta, Vassalo Anthony, said the Central Committee of his party put the New Year address on the agenda of its first meeting in 1994 and discussed it.

He declared that the Central Committee of his party unanimously decided on its continuous support to the struggle the Korean people are waging for the interests of the country in face of the ceaseless provocative moves of the United States under the great leadership of President Kim Il-song.

General Secretary of the Togolese People's Rally Amoussouvi Vignik Amedegnato, President of the National Republican Movement for the Democracy and Development of Rwanda Ngirumpatse Mathieu, Secretary General of the Sandinist National Liberation Front of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega Saavedra and party leaders of other countries expressed support to the policies concerning Korea's reunification and the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula reiterated by President Kim Il-song in his New Year address.

Paper Urges Asians To Build 'Prosperous New Asia'

SK0102103794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 1 Feb 94

["Right Way of Building New Asia"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 1 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a signed article today calls upon the Asian people to build a prosperous new Asia by expanding and developing South-South cooperation.

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"If the people of the Asian countries unite on the basis of independence and expand and develop South-South cooperation on the principle of collective self-reliance, they will be able to build a new, independent and prosperous Asia free from domination and subjugation."

Pointing out that it is the common cause of the Asian people to build an independent and prosperous new Asia freed from domination and subordination, the article says:

A right way of accomplishing this cause lies in that the Asian people unite on the basis of independence and expand and develop South-South cooperation on the principle of collective self-reliance.

Just as the Asian people are the masters of Asia, the building of a new Asia lies with the Asian people themselves.

The present situation requires the Asian people more urgently than ever to hew out the future of Asia as its masters in an independent way.

For the Asian people to unite on the basis of independence and expand and develop South-South cooperation is all the more urgent as the regionalization and bloc of the economy is being promoted in the world.

Only when they unite with each other and expand and promote economic exchange and cooperation can the Asian people push ahead with the building of a prosperous new Asia, winning in the fierce international economic trade competition.

They have full conditions and potentiality to develop South-South cooperation.

What is important is that all the Asian countries should cooperate with each other for common prosperity without selfishness.

It is necessary for them to firmly unite and actively cooperate with each other for the common cause, respecting and exchanging experiences on the principle of genuine independence, equality and mutual benefits.

If all the Asian people tap favourable conditions and rich potentials to the full by developing South-South cooperation in unity, they can bring about a rapid development of Asia and successfully build a new Asia of coprosperity.

It is the consistent stand of the DPRK to strive to expand and develop South-South cooperation, stresses the article.

Officials Attend Opening of Paektusan Games

SK0202043194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0406 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 2 (KCNA)—"Paektusan Prize" games opened at the Handball Gymnasium in Chongchun Street in Pyongyang Tuesday.

The annual games held around the holiday of February since 1977 are one of the large-scale sports contests in the country.

The games are held in Pyongyang and local areas till the end of February.

The participants compete in scores of events including field and track, basketball, volleyball, table tennis, boxing, wrestling (free style and greco-roman style), judo, swimming, shooting and archery.

Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Kim Chung-nin, Vice-Premier of the Administration Council Chang Chol and officials concerned attended the opening ceremony.

'Sunflower Society' Discusses New Action Plan

SK0202042094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0404 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 2 (KCNA)—Members of the "Sunflower Society" looking up to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as the lodestar of the nation recently met in Suwon to discuss this year's action program, according to a report of Radio Voice of National Salvation from Seoul.

At the meeting Chief of the Society Kim Mu-chin said that the organisation was named "Sunflower Society" from motives of holding in high esteem and following only the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il as the sunflower invariably follows the sun any time and anywhere.

He said:

"The dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il who imbues us with the spirit of independence, unfolds a great program of reunification and embraces the 70 million fellow countrymen in his bosom is the destiny of our nation, its unified motherland and its future.

"Let us all become the loyal sunflower following the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il, the sun of guidance, through generations."

Member of the Society Sin Chong-su said that the hearts of the members of the "Sunflower Society" following the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il as sunflower follows the sun at all times remain firm like a rock unshaken in any whirlwind and are upright like pine and bamboo.

Talk Lauds Chuche-Oriented Party Building

SK0202025294 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0200 GMT 30 Jan 94

[Unattributed talk: "The Chuche-Oriented Party-Building Theory Is a Complete Doctrine on Party Building of the Working Class in Our Era"]

[Text] Our party has victoriously led the socialist cause with lofty, leadership-oriented authority and invincible might. Because our party has regarded the chuche-oriented party-building theory as the leading guideline, our party is displaying the pride of being an invincible revolutionary party.

The chuche-oriented party-building theory, which the great leader [suryong] created and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has constantly developed and enriched, is a complete party building doctrine for the working class in our era.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has noted: The chuche-oriented party-building theory is the completed party building doctrine for the working class of our era.

Above all, the chuche-oriented party-building theory clearly elucidates the road to party building based on the unitary ideological system. Building the party based on the unitary ideological system is a basic principle for party building.

The party's unitary ideological system is the leader's [suryong] ideological system and leadership system. The working class' party is the vanguard unit of the working class and the working popular masses, who are organizationally and ideologically rallied around the leader [suryong]. The mission of the working class party lies in implementing the leader's [suryong] ideology and leadership and in leading the working popular masses to realize their independence.

For this reason, to discharge its missions as a political weapon for achieving the leader's [suryong] ideology and leadership, the party must establish the leader's [suryong] ideological and leadership system.

Only when the party's unitary ideological system is established can the entire party be armed with the leader's [suryong] ideology; can it move as one under the leader's [suryong] unitary leadership; and can it thoroughly realize the leader's [suryong] leadership for the whole society.

Also, the chuche-oriented party-building theory most clearly elucidates the road to masses-oriented party building. Building the party into a masses-oriented party is a basic policy in party building.

In the past period, the party has been regarded as the class-oriented political organization and as the weapon for class struggle, which represented and defended the class interests. The party is the class' vanguard unit which struggles to meet the demand and interests of a certain class. However, if the party is built into the party only for certain class' interests, it cannot fully discharge its duty as the revolutionary party and cannot enjoy the support of the broad segments of the masses.

Our era's historical conditions, in which the broad segments of popular masses emerged as the masters of their fate, demand that the working class' party be built into the party which represents the interests of the entire people and includes the leading elements of all working class circles. In the socialist society where the masses of all walks of life are turned into the socialist working people and where the social class composition is unified, building the working class's party into the masses-oriented party emerges as an urgent demand.

By scientifically penetrating our era's demands and our revolution's concrete reality and by putting forward the masses- oriented party-building theory, our party has opened a new road for revolutionary party building.

The masses-oriented party-building theory, which our party has put forth, is based on the chuche-oriented revolutionary principle that the masters of revolution and construction are the popular masses and that the might for promoting revolution and construction lies in the popular masses.

The socialist cause is preciously the popular masses' cause. Today, with socialism the desire of broad segments of the popular masses and the social class' foundation for socialism greatly expanded, the party struggling for the socialist cause should be built into the masses-oriented party which represents the interests of the entire popular masses and takes its root in the broad segments of the working popular masses.

Our party has been the strong bastion of the revolution because our party has been strengthened and developed into an invincible revolutionary party that enjoys the popular masses' absolute support and trust and because our party has been combined into one socio-political lifeline in which the party and the masses share the same fate of life or death. This is the brilliant fruition of the masses-oriented party-building line and the firm guarantee for our victory.

The chuche-oriented party-building theory has correctly elucidated the road for building a militant party characterized by strong organization and discipline. Revolutionary organization and discipline are the life of the working class party.

The working class party is the revolutionary general staff that breaks through the numerous ordeals and tribulations to organize and lead revolutionary struggle and construction work. In a nutshell, the working class party should not be a group which lacks standards and discipline but be a combat unit characterized by strong organization and discipline.

Based on the party's firmly established unitary ideology system, our party has correctly embodied the democratic-centralistic principle; has strengthened and developed the party members' life and the party's organization and discipline; and, thereby, has been strengthened and developed into an invincible revolutionary party with strong organization and discipline in which the whole party moves as one under the leader's [suryong] unitary leadership.

The chuche-oriented party-building theory is a valuable guideline capable of thoroughly embodying the basic party-building principle on basically adhering to the work conducted with people. The chuche-oriented party-building theory on basically adhering to the work conducted with people is based on the theory of the chuche idea.

Because the main forces for promoting revolution and construction are people, the working class party should resolve all issues arising in party construction and activities through the work conducted with people.

Our party has always given priority to the ideological indoctrination work of party members and working people, that is, the work conducted with people. By so doing, our party has greatly strengthened the main forces of the revolution and vigorously accelerated revolution and construction.

The chuche-oriented party-building theory has elucidated the correct road to most brilliantly implement the party's political leadership for revolution and construction. Firmly implementing the political leadership for society is the basic mission of the working class party. In a socialist society, the mission of the working class revolutionary party is to responsibly lead the people's fate and to provide them with an independent and creative life.

To discharge its missions, the party should firmly realize the political leadership in all national fields, including politics, economy, culture, and national defense. The party's responsibility and its leadership for the people's fate can never be separated.

Enhancing the party's leadership and role in order to firmly realize the political leadership for the whole society is the basic direction in building the socialist ruling party. For the first time, the chuche-oriented party-building theory fully elucidates the essence, principle, and method of the party's leadership for revolution and construction.

Our party has regulated party leadership for revolution and construction as the political guidance, that is, guidance based on politics, and has thoroughly checked the tendency for political guidance to fall into administrative ruts. Our party has thoroughly embodied the basic principle by raising it as the basic principle to combine the party's unitary leadership into the revolutionary masses-oriented line, thus correctly combining leadership with the masses and constantly enhancing the party's leadership role.

Our party has regulated a party committee as the supreme guidance organization of the units concerned and has guaranteed collective guidance in the party committee's activities. By so doing, our party has correctly combined the unity of the political leadership into the masses' initiative. By closely combining the party's work into the administrative and economic work, our party has strengthened the main forces of the revolution and vigorously accelerated socialist construction.

The chuche-oriented party-building theory is a powerful weapon capable of firmly establishing the revolutionary work method and people-minded work style in keeping with the inherent demand of the working class party. The issue concerning work method and style is one of the basic issues determining the success in strengthening the main forces of revolution and organizing and mobilizing the popular masses into the revolutionary struggle.

In the whole process of the party building, our party has adhered to the chuche-oriented party-building theory, has constantly struggled to improve the party's work method and style, and has thereby fully established the revolutionary work method and people-minded work style in the whole party based on the revolutionary masses-oriented line.

Our party's work method is the anti-Japanese guerrilla work method that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song created early on amidst the flames of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. The Chongsan-ri method and Chongsan-ri spirit were deepened and developed in keeping with the realistic demand for socialist construction to become our party's work method. In a word, our party's work method is a work method in the manner of the great leader [suryong].

Our party's work method is the most revolutionary and people- minded work method and style, which strengthens the single-hearted unity among the leader [suryong], the party, and the masses by closely combining the leadership with the masses and which brings the creation of the masses into full play.

Our party has put forward the slogan, "Serve the people," and led all functionaries to faithfully work for the people. By so doing, our party has thoroughly strengthened single-hearted unity among the leader [suryong], the party, and the masses to bring the unfathomable strength of the popular masses into full play.

The chuche-oriented party-building theory fully elucidates the issue of firmly guaranteeing continuity in party building. Firmly guaranteeing continuity in party building is the most basic issue that arises in carrying out the party's cause and the working class' revolutionary cause. Because the working class' revolutionary cause is a protracted cause which should be conducted generation after generation, the cause of the working class party-building cause should be inherited generation after generation.

The frustration of socialism in various countries in the world is a bitter lesson that if the working class party is not strengthened and developed generation after generation, the revolution is forced to undergo hardship and be stopped halfway. Based on the legitimate demand for developing the revolution in our era and on the historical lesson of the international communist movement, our party has raised the issue of inheriting the party's leadership as the most important issue arising in the completion of the working class revolutionary cause generation after generation. Our party has brilliantly resolved the issue theoretically and practically.

As a result, a firm guarantee for completing the chuche-oriented revolutionary cause generation after generation can be secured in our country. This is the greatest victory

which our party has gained in the process of embodying the chuche-oriented party-building theory.

Indeed, chuche-oriented party-building theory is the most correct guideline and completed theory which elucidates the future road for working class party building in our era.

We should take pride and confidence in having the most complete chuche-oriented party-building theory that was created by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and inherited and developed by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. By thoroughly embodying the chuche-oriented party-building theory, we should further strengthen and develop our party into an ever-victorious and invincible party.

Increase in Production of Farm Machines Noted

SK0102110394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 1 (KCNA)—This year marks the 30th anniversary of the publication of the socialist rural theses in Korea. To honor this occasion the farm machine factories throughout the country are boosting production.

The Kumsong General Tractor Works is waging a vigorous drive for increased production, having set itself the goal of producing 10,000 more tractors this year than last year. Now efforts are directed to keep the production of castings ahead of processing. Having completed several automatic moulding machines, it is now successfully promoting the work for manufacturing one more automatic moulding machine and installing another cupola furnace, which is aimed at automatizing the production of large castings.

Increased production has been reported from tractor parts factories and trailing farm machine factories in Hamhung, Sariwon, Anju and other places of the country from the beginning of the year.

In the first 20 days or more of the new year the Pyongyang and Haeju tractor parts factories raised the output of tractor accessories 20 and 30 pegcent respectively above the correscondingperiod last year.

The Pyongsong Farm Machine Factory is topping its daily assignments 20 to 30 percent entering this year. The workers there have set themselves the goal of producing more than 1,000 rice-transplanting machines by early May.

The workers of the Sungri General Motor Works have increased the speed of assembling 50 percent above that toward the end of last year in order to supply an increased number of lorries to the socialist countryside.

Production Upsurge in Various Domains Noted

SK0202114094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 2 (KCNA)—A production upsurge has been reported from different domains of the national economy in Korea.

The Musan mining complex, a leading production base of iron headings, has lifted production to a high mark in February after topping the January plan.

The complex hit the January target of iron headings three days ahead of schedule. In the period, it removed overburden more than double the amount in the same period toward the end of last year and secured 1.2 million more tons of crude ore.

The Tokchon district coal mining complex surpassed the first day's quota by far entering the new month. The complex overfulfilled the plan for last month 2.4 percent in capital tunelling, 20.9 percent in preparatory tunelling and 1.2 percent in coal production.

The Sunchon district coal mining complex, the Pyongyang thermal power complex, the Nakwon machine complex, the combined general bureau of shoemaking industry and the Korea silk association are boosting production from the first day of February after surpassing their January targets.

The Pyongyang silk mill topped the January plan for silk yarn 50 percent, strongly backing the silk textile producers in increasing production.

Royal Tomb of Founder of Ancient Korea Rebuilt

SK0102053094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0457 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Pyongyang, February 1 (KCNA)—The Royal Tomb of Wang Kon, the founder of Koryo, has been rebuilt. Koryo was the first unified state of Korea which existed for 475 years from 918.

The tomb situated at the foot of Mt. Songak in Kaesong consists of a grand domed grave on three stages of foundation stones, a portrait of the king, stone sculptures portraying celebrated civil servants and warriors who displayed their wisdom and courage at the time of the unification of three states, paintings on the fight of the Koryo people and the tomb gate and a shrine which represent the then architecture.

In front of the tomb gate there stands "monument to the reconstruction of the royal tomb of Wang Kon, founder of Koryo" handwritten by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The visitors can go into the grave and see the interior and mural paintings. A wide range of park lies before the tomb.

The rebuilt tomb was opened to the general public with a due ceremony Monday.

In his address at the ceremony, Yim Su-man, chief secretary of the Kaesong municipal committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the Kaesong municipal people's committee, said the Royal Tomb of Wang Kon, the founder of Koryo, was rebuilt under the wise guidance and care of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

"This means that we have restored another valuable cultural heritage in order to hand down to the posterity the traditions of national history ranging from Kojoson (ancient Korea) founded by Tangun, which marked the entry of the Korean nation into an era of state, an era of civilization, down to Koryo, the first unified state succeeding the powerful state in the east Koguryo and Palhae," he said.

South Korea

Foreign Minister on Policy Concerning DPRK Issue

Urges Government To Keep 'Composure'

SK0202025494 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0210 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said the government should keep its composure because North Korea has nothing to gain by delaying the resolution of the nuclear issue. At the conference of heads of ROK overseas missions on 2 February, Minister Han Sung-chu said it is his view that North Korea's attempt to delay, whether for one or two months or for a half a year, will not help to promote its nuclear development capability and nuclear development activities.

Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu's remarks urging composure are noteworthy because it is made at a time when the possibility of referring the North Korean nuclear issue to the United Nations is increasing.

Urges Policy Shift on North

SK0202030294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0245 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 2 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu has called for a shift from confrontational diplomacy in dealing with North Korea in preparation for an era of peaceful coexistence, noting the government has played a zero-sum game in diplomacy toward North Korea and the unification issue. There are many non-zero-sum games in the North Korean nuclear issue and in inter-Korean relations, he said. In a zero-sum game, a gain for one side entails a corresponding loss for the other side.

Addressing the opening session of the annual meeting of overseas mission chiefs on Wednesday, he said what the government must first consider in dealing with the North Korean nuclear issue is the need to prevent it from worsening dramatically. In the short term, the government should aim at guaranteeing the transparency of North Korea's nuclear program.

He also stressed the need for flexibility and patience in dealing with North Korea: "Even if North Korea earned time by use of delaying tactics (in its negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Agency on international inspections of its nuclear facilities), such time would not be of any help to North Korea's nuclear development program."

Commenting on President Kim Yong-sam's internationalization policy, Han said it is aimed at increasing the global competitiveness of Korean products and enriching the people's spiritual and material life, adding, "you overseas mission chiefs should bear the brunt of this policy as the nation's outposts."

Any stereotyped and predictable diplomacy should be transformed into a pragmatic, forward-looking and flexible diplomacy, he remarked.

Attending the opening session of the meeting, which lasts until the weekend, were 49 mission chiefs stationed in Asia and North and South America.

After the opening session, the mission chiefs discussed measures to attain peaceful unification of Korea, increased international cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region and promotion of South Korea for membership in the United Nations Security Council.

The prime minister later hosted a luncheon for the mission chiefs at the Sejong Cultural Center, where he called on them to do their best in tackling security and trade issues.

IAEA Cited on Chances for Completing Inspections

SK0202092694 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0800 GMT 2 Feb 94

[AFP/YONHAP from Vienna]

[Text] The International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] disclosed on 1 February that the possibility of completing inspections of North Korea's nuclear facilities before the IAEA Board of Governors meeting slated for 21 February are becoming thinner and thinner. IAEA officials pointed out that even if an inspection team leaves for Pyongyang at the end of this week, there is not enough time for even submitting a preliminary report to the IAEA Board of Governors meeting. The IAEA officials said that North Korea has assumed a firm stance on a third round of IAEA-North Korea negotiation for nuclear inspections. They stressed, however, that the IAEA has not yet given up all hope and that the door is still open for North Korea.

Unification Minister Cited on Negotiations

SK0202012094 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 2 Feb 94 p 1

[Text] Efforts for the solution of the North Korean nuclear issue will enter a critical phase around Feb. 21 when the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will hold a Board of Governors meeting, the nation's top unification policy-maker predicted yesterday.

Yi Yong-tok, deputy prime minister and national unification minister, said the government will step up consultations with the United States and the IAEA on ways to have Pyongyang accept inspections by the U.N.-sponsored nuclear watchdog. He made the remarks during a consultation on unification policies between government and ruling Democratic Liberal Party officials.

Yi also gave the meeting an analysis of the North Korean Foreign Ministry's statement Monday, where the communist country threatened to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, if Washington continued to demand full-scale inspections and build up its forces in the South.

"North Koreans seem to fear that the strengthened U.S. military and intelligence activities in the South may be part of its efforts to accumulate pretexts for international sanctions (against them)," he said.

Meanwhile, a senior Foreign Ministry official said it was improper for North Koreans to take issue with the deployment of Patriot missiles in the South, which has nothing to do with the North Korean nuclear issue.

Commenting on the North Korean statement, the official said the antimissile missiles are for defensive purposes only and their deployment is part of a plan to improve the joint South Korea-U.S. defense capability.

South Korea still expects North Korea, recognizing the inevitability of international inspections of its nuclear sites, to take positive steps to receive the inspections soon, said Chang Chae-yong, the Ministry's director-general for American Affairs. He said Seoul also favors solution of the nuclear issue through dialogue and is closely cooperating with the United States and other countries concerned to achieve it.

Press Reacts to 31 Jan DPRK Ministry Statement

SK0202060494

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports published in Seoul vernacular daily newspapers on 2 February analyzing the statement by a DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman denouncing the United States for 'reversing' the DPRK-U.S. agreement for a peaceful solution to the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO publishes on page 3 a 1,200-word article by reporter An Hui-chang, entitled "Background of the Statement on Reviewing the Withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, NPT." Noting that U.S.-North Korean nuclear negotiations have entered "a new phase" with North Korea's publication of a Foreign Ministry statement warning of its withdrawal from the NPT, the article analyzes the North Korean position as aimed at "strategic purposes." First, North Korea wants to promptly secure "substantive fruit" by realizing working-level contact with the United States, instead of talks with the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, through "a strong message" to the United States. Describing the substantive fruit as "attaining limited inspection" in negotiations with IAEA and suspension of the Team Spirit exercise, the article reports that North Korea must have judged that it had better use "strong measures" toward the United States in a bid to accomplish its goals rather than hoping for results from negotiations with the IAEA; and that by using such measures, the United States would eventually "make concessions," although initially showing "tough reactions."

The article cites observations of a National Unification Board, NUB, official that although North Korea is "outwardly" sternly denouncing the United States, it is maintaining the position not to destroy "the frame of negotiation" as long as the United States wants to continue dialogue. Basically, by releasing the recent statement, North Korea is seeking to "resume" negotiations with the United States to discuss the IAEA inspections, the Team Spirit issue, and the third round of North Korean-U.S. talks; and in this way, wants to "secure" its own practical interest. The paper also notes that North Korea intends to "consolidate" its internal unity by further creating "the atmosphere of tension" with the United States.

The liberal TONG-A ILBO publishes on page 5 a 1,300-word article by reporter Kim Cha-su entitled " 'Attempt to Drag on Time' Aimed at Reducing Inspections." Noting the discussion between North Korea and IAEA over "the scale of inspection" is in the final stage, the article observes that by publishing the statement, North Korea is using "delaying strategy" aimed at dragging on time in discussions with IAEA because it is not in the position of accepting IAEA inspections during Kim Chong-il's birthday on 16 February. North Korea also thinks that if inspections are conducted before the IAEA Board of Governors meeting slated for 21 February, "heated discussions" will take place concerning North Korea's "nuclear development suspicion" by introducing the results of inspections.

The article observes that North Korea is attempting to maintain "a favorable position" regarding inspections in negotiations with the IAEA by expressing its "tough position" so "the scale of inspections" will be reduced "as much as possible." The article also points out the possibility that North Korea and the United States interpreted the promise of acceptance of IAEA inspections "differently." In other words, during a 29 December contact in New York, North Korea promised

that it will accept IAEA inspections in such a way as to "ensure continuity of nuclear safeguard measures." The United States, however, might have interpreted this as acceptance of inspections "to the extent demanded by IAEA." This misinterpretation might have touched off North Korea's "tough position."

Concerning such various observations, relevant government officials predict that North Korea's "true intention" will be revealed during this week in its reply letter to the IAEA on the scope of inspections put forward by the IAEA, which North Korea is committed to send "within this week." The article concludes that the government views that although it is delaying time in negotiations with IAEA, North Korea will accept inspections by making "gradual concessions," and thus will not lead the situation to a "catastrophe."

The moderate HANGUK ILBO publishes on page 3 a 1,500-word article by reporter Chong Pyong-chin entitled "The Government's View on North Korean Statement on Withdrawal from NPT." Regarding the recent North Korean statement as "a message" to the United States, the article observes that North Korea is attempting to "upgrade" its position during forthcoming U.S.-North Korean high-level talks by stressing "the U.S. violation of promise" as the main reason for deadlocked North Korean-IAEA negotiations. Explaining differences in assertions between North Korea and IAEA on the scope of inspections, the article reports North Korea seems to wish to solve its problems at talks with the United States, instead of talks with IAEA. The article observes that there is "no change" in the North Korean policy to "settle" the negotiation over the nuclear inspections "in any form" before the IAEA's regular Board of Governors meeting slated for 21 February. The article refers to some observations on the ROK and U.S. side that North Korea will likely allow the IAEA inspection team to visit North Korea around 16 February—Kim Chong-il's birthday.

The pro-government SEOUL SINMUN publishes on page 5 a 1,200-word article by Yang Sung-hyon analyzing the background of the statement by a North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Describing it as "a message to the United States," the article analyzes that the statement has a long-term objective to secure an advantageous position in future talks with the United States by blaming the United States for breaking a promise, thus causing a stalemate in the negotiations with the IAEA.

The article notes that "North Korea could not easily accept the IAEA's requirements presented in the fourth contact on 17 January because North Korea had intended to use them as the conditions for a package deal in the third round talks with the United States."

The article speculates that the hard-line moves by the United States and the ROK, including discounting the meaning of the suspension of the Team Spirit exercise and the discussion on the deployment of Patriot missiles, may have stimulated North Korea's intention to seek a resolution through U.S.-North Korean contacts again.

The article ends by quoting a government official as saying: "It will be difficult for North Korea to secure another contact with the United States" due to the firm U.S. stance to side with the IAEA.

The independent left-leaning HANGYORE SINMUN publishes on page 3 a 1,500-word article by Pak Chong-mun entitled "North Korea's Nuclear Statement in the Final Stage, Is It a Tactic or Does the North Mean It?"

Noting that the statement implies a probability that North Korea may depart from a peaceful resolution of the nuclear issue, the article reports the Foreign Ministry is gravely concerned about the aggravation of the situation, although it tries to appear calm.

The article analyzes that the Foreign Ministry is not optimistic because: "First, if the statement is interpreted as North Korea's actual refusal of overall inspection [chonmyon sachal], the situation is in a deadlock because the United States and the IAEA cannot make any more concessions. Second, if the statement is interpreted as aiming at another contact with the United States for further reduced scope of inspections, there is still little possibility of settlement because the United States has no reason to intervene between North Korea and the IAEA."

The article quotes a Foreign Ministry official as saying: "It seems that North Korea began negotiations with the IAEA based on the optimistic report by the negotiating team with the United States, which had apparently only reported the advantageous part of the agreement, but now the IAEA's requirements are facing strong opposition inside the North."

The article ends by reiterating the threat implied by the statement to reverse the resolution plan of the nuclear issue.

DPRK Increasing 'Processing-on-Commission' Trade

SK0202061694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0601 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 2 (YONHAP)—North Korea is stepping up "processing-on-commission" trade that is similar to the early shape of China's opening, the Korea Trade Promotion Corporation (KOTRA) said on Wednesday.

KOTRA issued a report titled "The Reality of North Korea-Japan Trade of Processing-on-commission and Inter-Korea Trade," which said that North Korea is encouraging processing-on-commission trade, following the example set by China in the early stages of its opening.

In processing on commission, foreign companies provide North Korean factories with raw materials and buy the finished products.

"The new trade system" which North Korean President Kim Il-song introduced late last year to diversify trading methods is very similar to "the new trade method" China began in 1979, the KOTRA report said.

Under the system, all organizations including the External Economy Commission, government ministries, commissions, district administrative bodies, trading companies and manufacturing enterprises should move to expand external trade in addition to doing their own work.

The system also means that the forms of trade should be diversified toward processing, border and compensation trade.

North Korea's biggest partners in processing on commission trade are Japanese enterprises, especially those related to Chochongnyon, a pro-Pyongyang organization of Korean residents in Japan, and the main field is the textile industry, according to KOTRA.

Textiles exported by North Korea to Japan in the form of processing on commission trade reached 8.7 billion Japanese yen in 1992, up 26.9 percent from a year earlier, and amounted to 8.8 billion yen in the first 10 months of 1993, up 38.2 percent from the same period of 1992.

Meanwhile, South Korea is prohibiting businessmen from visiting North Korea, making it difficult for them to instruct North Korean workers on the advanced technology necessary for processing on commission trade for high-value-added goods.

South Korea's processing on commission trade with North Korea is thus limited to some simple needlework, KOTRA said.

Nonetheless, South Korean purchases of goods processed on commission in North Korea, mainly textiles, skyrocketed 729 percent to 4.39 million dollars in nine cases last year.

Ministry To Promote Moving U.S. Bases to Suburbs

SK0202093694 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0800 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] In connection with the successive civil petitions requesting that the U.S. bases stationed in various regions of the cities throughout the nation be moved to the suburbs, the Defense Ministry revealed on 2 February that this will be promoted comprehensively and step by step after taking into consideration the role of the U.S. forces stationed in the ROK complying with the change in the security environment, and in accordance with the developments in adjusting the scope of the U.S. forces stationed in the ROK.

In connection with the work to move some U.S. bases to suburbs which was already agreed upon between the regional autonomous bodies and U.S. bases, the Defense Ministry added that cooperation will be carried out to the utmost from the level of fulfilling the desire of the people in the region to move the U.S. bases.

Judging that an enormous amount of budget will be required in moving the communications, electronics, oil pipeline, and railways of the U.S. bases, the Defense Ministry viewed that if North Korea's nuclear issue is resolved and there is change in the security situation, there is a high possibility for the additional reduction of U.S. forces stationed in the ROK as well as the readjustment of stationing the bases.

U.S. Report on PRC, DPRK Human Rights Noted

SK0202022494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0209 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Washington, Feb. 1 (YONHAP)—The human rights situation in South Korea since the inauguration of President Kim Yong-sam in 1993 has improved significantly except for cases involving communism and North Korea, the U.S. State Department says. In North Korea, President Kim Il-song's regime is repressive and subjects its citizens to rigid controls, the State Department said in a report issued Tuesday on the human rights situation around the world in 1993. The North Korean regime establishes security ratings for each individual which determine access to employment, schools, medical facilities and certain stores as well as admission to the Workers' (Communist) Party. But this loyalty system appears to have been relaxed somewhat in recent years, the report said.

In China, there has been "partial progress" but changes have been limited, the report said, foreshadowing continued friction between the United States and China over human rights. Washington is expected to continue to press Beijing for improvement in human rights conditions in return for most favored nation (MFN) trade privileges.

"The overall human rights situation improved significantly (in South Korea)," the report said. This was "a result of the fundamental shift in attitude and policy of the Kim Yong-sam administration. President Kim achieved two democratic, institutional reforms of an historic nature: The abolition of false-name bank accounts and the enactment of a government ethics law," it said.

"The government also decreed several amnesties that released, reduced the prison sentences of, or erased the criminal records of, hundreds of persons arrested for politically motivated acts," it said.

Nevertheless, the Kim administration, insisting that the National Security Law (NSL) is designed to thwart

subversion by pro-North Korean forces, continued to use it to violate freedom of expression, association and travel, it said.

"The (Seoul) government invoked the NSL less, however, and NSL arrests declined by over half," it added.

On North Korea, it said the regime detains about 150,000 political prisoners and family members in maximum security camps in remote areas. An October 1992 report by two former inmates made reference to the severe living conditions in what they called "concentration camps," it said. One credible report lists 12 such prison camps that are believed to exist in North Korea, it said.

Koreans with relatives who fled to the South during the Korean war appear to still be classified as part of the "hostile class," it said.

The report quoted defector Cho Kap-chae as estimating that the "impure" class may comprise 25 to 30 percent of the population. "Members of this class may still be subject to some discrimination, although Cho claimed that their treatment has improved greatly in recent years," it said.

Political prisoners, opponents of Kim Il-song and his son and heir apparent, Kim Chong-il, repatriated defectors and others have been summarily executed, it said.

North Korea equates "political criminals" with those who criticize the regime, it said. "Numerous other reports suggest that in the past political offenses included such forms of less majesty as sitting on newspapers bearing Kim Il-song's picture."

Effect of PRC Travel Liberalization Assessed

SK0202014894 Seoul YONHAP in English 0107 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 2 (YONHAP)—Liberalization of travel to China will expand the tourism deficit to a record 1.3 billion U.S. dollars this year, the Korea National Tourism Corp. (KNTC) said on Wednesday. KNTC officials are predicting that 800,000 Koreans will visit China this year as travel to that country is liberalized in March, compared with last year's 200,000 Korean tourists to China. But the number of Chinese visiting Korea will be the same as last year and they will spend a similar amount of money here.

The 800,000 Korean tourists to China are expected to spend 1.68 billion dollars, up 1.26 billion dollars from 420 million dollars last year. In 1993 the average Korean tourist spent 2,100 dollars in China, in contrast to an average expenditure of 1,700 dollars for other destinations.

Earlier KNTC officials predicted this year's tourism account would be balanced, not taking into consideration the liberalization of travel to China. Thus the additional spending on tours to China, 1.26 billion dollars, is likely to account for the total travel deficit this year.

With the hosting of "Visit Korea Year 1994," KNTC officials had thought tourism earnings and spending would both be about 4.2 billion dollars this year, putting an end to three consecutive years of travel deficits.

The travel deficit reached 358 million dollars in 1991, 523 million dollars in 1992 and 584 million dollars in 1993.

Under these circumstances, the Transportation Ministry and KNTC are busy trying to curb the tourism deficit while travel agencies here are pushing more package tours to China.

Inchon To Become Key Port for Trade With China

SK0202094994 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 2 Feb 94 p 1

[Report by Yi Chung-il and Choe Chae-yong from Inchon]

[Text] On 1 February, Inchon Mayor Choe Ki-son issued the "Declaration of 2011 Inchon Internationalization" on developing Inchon into a international city and released the plan to develop Inchon into a key port of Northeast Asia in the 2000's. Mayor Choe pointed out: "Inchon meets various required conditions for being an outpost for internationalization. Inchon is a starting point of sea and air routes as it has an international trade port and Yongjongdo Airport, which is under construction. It also has the Kyonggi- Inchon Industrial Complex nearby." He said: "The positive [nungdongjok] internationalization is the only alternative to cut our way through the age of limitless competitions among countries, and this can firmly be established only when local cities are internationalized."

To achieve this goal, Inchon is planning to accomplish the following by 2011: Development of its North Port into a port with an annual stevedoring capacity of 25 million tonnes; overall rearrangement of municipal functions for the convenience of domestic and foreign visitors, whose number is expected to be 100 million a year after Yongjongdo Airport is completed; and construction of a technopolice equipped with business, trade, financial, port control, information, and communication functions in a 5,350,000-pyong reclaimed land on Song Island. Inchon plans to invite a total investment of 602.4 billion won—government investment of 207.5 billion won and civilian investment of 394.9 billion won—to enlarge the port in two stages. For building the technopolice on Song Island, it also plans to invite a considerable amount of civilian investment out of the total expenses of 1.8 trillion won—600 billion won for reclamation and 1.2 trillion won for building the city. Mayor Choe said: "Not only businessmen in Inchon but also large enterprises, such as Daewoo, Hanjin, and Sunkyong express

their intention to actively participate in the construction of the Inchon technopolice."

Mayor Choe also presented the idea of "In Tide (in the tide of the limitless competition)"—a symbol of the solidarity among Inchon, [China's] Tianjin, and Dalian and which is named after the first two characters in each of the three cities' names—in an effort to link Inchon's technology with Tianjin's labor and Dalian's resources. Inchon established sisterhood relations with Tianjin in December 1993 and will establish sistership with Dalian in March.

Mayor Choe will attend the opening ceremony of the standing Inchon goods exhibition center, the first official event since the presentation of the "In Tide" idea, to be held in Tianjin on 30 March along with about 100 businessmen in Inchon, who will participate in the exhibition with their products.

Inchon has rapidly increased its trade with China since 1992 when ROK-PRC diplomatic ties were established. The number of Chinese visitors to the ROK through Inchon in 1990 was 9,411, and that in 1993 was around 116,100, increasing over 11 times. The amount of export and import cargo in 1990 was 409 TEU, and that in 1993 was 19,195 TEU, skyrocketing over 20 times. Like this, Inchon is becoming a key port in the Yellow Sea age.

Opposition Official May Visit China in March

SK0202004894 Seoul YONHAP in English 0006 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 2 (YONHAP)--Kim Tae-chung, former opposition leader and chairman of the Peace Foundation for the Asia and pacific region, plans to visit China as early as March.

One of his aides said Tuesday that Kim is slated to deliver a lecture at the Pacific Historical Society and receive an emeritus professorship from Nankai University. Kim is also pushing to meet with Chinese leaders during his visit, he said.

One foundation official said a Kim aide visited China from Jan. 19-25 and discussed Kim's itinerary with the Korean Embassy in Beijing and Chinese officials. At that time, the aide received a proposal to grant an emeritus professorship to Kim from Nankai University, said the official, who will visit China to finalize Kim's itinerary. The official said he believed Kim Tae-chung would be able to meet with Chinese Government leaders.

Opening Market to Japanese Culture Ruled Out

SK0202080294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0715 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 2 (YONHAP)—The government and the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) decided Wednesday not to study opening the Korean market to Japanese cultural products, an issue raised by the recent remarks of South Korean Ambassador to Japan Kong No-myong.

Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu told a joint meeting of the government and ruling party officials for foreign affairs that the remarks of Ambassador Kong are not the official position of the Foreign Ministry. Kong said Monday that the present ban on Japanese culture should be lifted soon in light of the current age of advanced telecommunications and mass media, which is rendering borders insignificant. Kong said, "it is desirable for Korea to open its markets now to good Japanese cultural products including movies."

Paek Nam-chi, the party's policy coordinator, quoted Minister Han as saying at the meeting, "the government is not studying the issue of market opening to Japanese cultural products at this stage."

Paek said, "the joint meeting agreed that studying importation of Japanese culture is not feasible at this stage because it could pave the way for a flood of foreign culture. And considering the special national sentiment toward Japan, it is not desirable either, as most participants agreed. The DLP is therefore opposed to any cultural market opening."

The party's position is to refrain from mentioning the issue anymore, as the Foreign Ministry has decided not to study opening the market, he added.

Meanwhile, DLP chairman Kim Chong-pil told journalists on Tuesday that now is not the time to begin importation of Japanese culture considering the national sentiment. He clarified his opposition to the issue, saying that the country should take a prudent attitude toward allowing in Japanese culture.

Farmers' Groups Involved in Rally Described

SK0202081094 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 2 Feb 94 p 23

[Text] The National League of Farmers' Association [Chonnong, Chairman Pae Chong-yol] integrated various farmers' organizations throughout the country in April 1990 under the common purpose of struggling for and solving agriculture-related problems such as opposition to imports of foreign agricultural products and requests for increased governmental purchase of their rice.

An open advocate of struggle for mass-oriented politics, Chonnong has led numerous violent demonstrations against the opening of domestic rice markets and for the government's purchase of more rice ever since its inauguration.

With approximately 100,000 members, Chonnong has subordinate organizations in 90 counties throughout the country.

Chonnong's predecessors are the Christian Farmers' Association [Kinong] and the Catholic Farmers' Association [Kanong] which was organized by Catholic priests in 1966 to protect farmers' rights and interests.

Also participating in last night's rally in Seoul was the Central Association of the Young Prosperous Farmers and Fisheries [Hannongyon], which is an even larger organization than Chonnong. However, the rally was led, for the most part, by the Chonnong and students belonging to the General Federation of Univerity Students Associations [Hanchongyon], and this caused the rally to be more violent.

A moderate organization, the Hanrongyon was organized by the government in 1981 in an effort to prevent farmers from leaving their rural villages with 47,000 select farmers and government financial support.

Increase in Sale of Foreign Cigarettes Noted

SK0202015094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0133 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 2 (YONHAP)--Domestic consumption of foreign cigarettes soared last year due to a strengthening of sales promotion activities by foreign cigarette makers and importers here, the Finance Ministry said Wednesday.

Foreign cigarettes passing through the customs house last year reached 357,888,000 packs worth 283,288 million won (about 350.6 million U.S. dollars). The volume registered a 34.2 percent increase from the year before, while turnover rose 32.3 percent. Foreign cigarettes accounted for 6.7 percent of the total volume of cigarettes sold in South Korea in 1993, up 1.5 percent from 1992, while the proportion in turnover rose to 9.1 percent, up 1.7 percentage points.

In contrast, the increase in sales of domestically made cigarettes both at home and abroad was a mere 2.9 percent in volume and 6.1 percent in turnover from 1992.

On the home front, the Japanese brand "Mild Seven Lights" (800 won or about one dollar per pack) and America's "Virginia Slims" (about 1.23 dollars) topped the list of foreign cigarettes, accounting for 27.3 percent and 23.4 percent, respectively, of the foreign cigarette market in volume.

"Marlboro Lights" (one dollar) took a 13.1 percent share of the market, followed by "Marlboro" (one dollar) with 5.8 percent, "Finesse" (1.23 dollars) with 4.8 percent, "Vantage Lights" (1.23 dollars) with 3.3 percent and "Yves Saint Laurent" (1.23 dollars) with 2.0 percent.

Automobile Exports Show Increase in Jan

SK0202025094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0219 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 2 (YONHAP)—In January, 48,955 automobiles were exported, up 22.6 percent from 39,946 in the same month a year earlier, the Korea Automobile Manufacturers Association (KAMA) said on Wednesday. The rise was caused by the yen's continued strength and brisk auto sales for Hyundai Motor Co. and Kia Motors Corp. in the United States.

In the same month, 113,533 autos were sold at home, up 18.3 percent, but the figure compares with 141,991 units sold in December last year. Among the major automakers, Hyundai Motor Co. ranked first both in exports and in sales at home. Hyundai exported 35,360 cars, up 38.1 percent, and sold 55,035 autos at home, up 13.7 percent.

Daewoo Motor Co. exported 2,027 cars, off more than 50 percent, and sold 25,882 at home, up 42.7 percent. Kia Motors Corp. exported 10,013 units, up 11.0 percent, and sold 25,062 at home, up 6.7 percent. The figures were 521 and 2,980, respectively, for Ssangyong Motor Co. and 1,367 and 1,865 for Asia Motor Co. Hyundai Precision and Industry Co., which produces only the jeep Galloper for the domestic market, sold 2,709.

Meanwhile, KAMA predicted that 815,000 autos will be exported this year, up 27.7 percent, and 1.56 million autos will be sold at home, up 10.4 percent.

Cambodia

VGNUFC Condemns French Over Succession

BK0202035594 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Recently, (Misac), a former French minister, came to Phnom Penh and went around asking about the so-called successor to His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk.

(Misac)'s activity can be compared to a merchant getting ready to buy a tiger's hide. This is France's policy and preparation for Cambodia in line with its obsolete colonialist system.

During this trip to sound out the opinion on this important issue, (Misac) received answers from various sources as follows:

First opinion: The persons qualified to succeed his majesty are members of the Duang Dynasty's Norodom and Sisowat lines, such as His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, Norodom Chakkrapong, HRH Prince Kromluong Yuveakneat, and Prince Norodom Sihamoni.

Second opinion: The Vietnamese communists and their puppets want Norodom Chakkrapong to succeed His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk. They have also put Chea Sim's name on the list to succeed his majesty, saying that Chea Sim has been given a royal title. He has ordered the masses and government officials to use royal language when addressing him and to call his wife the royal consort.

The people in Phnom Penh ridiculed traitor Chea Sim, likening him to the lizard with a golden ring. They asked, who asked (Misac) to come to Phnom Penh to arrange an heir to His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk's throne—the outstanding leader and father of the nation, of national reconciliation, and of peace—who is respected and loved by the entire nation?

The Cambodian nation and people asked, who wanted this man to raise the question of reigning on the throne in the current Cambodian situation when the nation and people are suffering from great and most serious misery due to both national and social problems and despite the fact that His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk still continues as the esteemed and beloved outstanding leader of the nation and people?

The nation and people also expressed anger with the Vietnamese communists and their puppets for trying to elevate the traitorous clique, their out-and-out flunky to the throne in Cambodia.

His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk has stated clearly that the reigning king must have good quality and virtue and always be concerned about the national and people's interests and the national unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Cambodia. The entire Cambodian nation and people are in unity with His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk. Therefore, France, the Vietnamese communists, or any other foreigners have no right to arrange any successor to the throne for serving them and destroying the Cambodian nation and people.

VGNUFC: Chea Sim Opposes National Reconciliation

BK0202022094 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Excerpt] During a meeting with the Canadian envoy in Phnom Penh on 29 January, the puppet Chea Sim declared his vehement opposition to national reconciliation. He demanded that Democratic Kampuchea implement his three conditions before any other issue is discussed. This declaration clearly proves that the Vietnamese communist puppets—on orders from their bosses—do not accept His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk's five-point political plan to secure national reconciliation and genuine peace in Cambodia. [passage omitted]

Possible Kandal Province Food Shortage Viewed

BK0202121294 Phnom Penh AKP in French 1007 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Summary] Phnom Penh 2 Feb (AKP)—According to the local agriculture service, Kandal Province could face a shortage of 34,530 tonnes of foodstuffs in 1994 with the production of the past rainy season and the current dry season reaching only 176,200 tonnes. This is not enough to meet the needs of the 851,620 persons living in the province.

Only four districts—Phnum Penh, Kandal Stoeng, S'ang, and Ponhea Loe—possess favorable conditions for growing rainy season rice while land in other districts along the Mekong river is reserved for growing dry season rice and subsidiary crops. The province transplanted only 45,230 hectares of assorted varieties of rice with an average yield of a tonne and a half per hectare in the past rainy season. So far the province has planted more than 12,300 hectares of fast-growing rice, or 25 percent of the plan.

Laos

Thai Parliamentary Delegation Visit Continues

Assembly Meeting, Ties Assessed

BK0202082994 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Excerpts] His Excellency [H.E.] Chaleun Yiapaoheu, head of the Secretariat Commission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] National Assembly, has

told national radio reporters that the talks between the high-level Lao National Assembly delegation and the high-level parliamentary delegation from the Kingdom of Thailand proceeded in an atmosphere of good-neighborly and fraternal friendship. As a result of the talks, agreements have been reached on many issues.

The talks were held this afternoon at the National Assembly Hall in the capital, Vientiane. Attending the talks on the Lao side were H.E. National Assembly Chairman Saman Vi-gnaket; H.E. Chaleun Yiapaoheu, member of the National Assembly from Oudomsai Province and head of the National Assembly Secretariat Commission; H.E. Dr. Khamliang Phonsena, member of the National Assembly from Champassak Province and head of the National Assembly Foreign Affairs Commission; H.E. Souphanthaheuangsi Sisaleumsak, member of the National Assembly from Luang Prabang Province; H.E. Dr. Siho Bannavong, member of the National Assembly from Vientiane Municipality, deputy head of the National Assembly Cultural and Social Commission, and vice chairman of the Lao-Thai Friendship Association; H.E. Somphon Kha-gnong-ek, member of the National Assembly from Champassak Province; H.E. Brigadier General Saisompheng Souli-gnavong, member of the National Assembly from Xieng Khouang Province; H.E. Khamsen Meuangmani, member of the National Assembly from Saravane Province; and H.E. Khampong Soulinphoumi, member of the National Assembly from Vientiane Municipality. [passage omitted]

[Begin Yiapaoheu recording] The Lao National Assembly delegation and the Thai parliamentary delegation held a meeting at 1450 in the National Assembly auditorium. During the meeting, Chairman Saman Vi-gnaket welcomed the Thai delegation's official visit. He highly assessed the visit and noted that it will contribute to promoting and expanding the long-standing and traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples of Laos and Thailand. Chairman Saman Vi-gnaket also briefed the Thai side on the general situation in the LPDR. He emphasized the National Assembly's organizational work and activities, especially the establishment and enforcement of the Constitution and various laws aimed at guaranteeing Lao citizens from all tribes their democratic rights, freedoms, and rights as masters. In addition, Chairman Saman Vi-gnaket briefed the Thai side on the National Assembly's functions, structure, and activities. He also gave his views on the LPDR's determination to implement the policy of peace, friendship, and cooperation. In this regard, he said the LPDR and the multiethnic Lao people always seek friendship with all neighboring countries as well as various friendly countries throughout the world, both near and far. In addition, Chairman Saman Vi-gnaket expressed his satisfaction with the friendly relations between the LPDR National Assembly and the Parliament of the Kingdom of Thailand.

For his part, Prof. Marut Bunnak expressed his pleasure with the welcome accorded to the Thai delegation by the Lao side. He then reiterated the time-honored and traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the two countries. He noted that Laos and Thailand are two neighboring and fraternal countries that maintain similar customs and languages. He continued, saying that as representatives that have worked for the interests of the people and the nation, the delegation will contribute positively and more effectively to boosting the activities of the two countries' assemblies. In conclusion, the two sides agreed to strengthen mutual relations between the two countries' assemblies through various forms and means, such as exchanging visits between delegations at various levels. In this regard, the two sides agreed to set up a friendship association between the LPDR National Assembly and the Parliament of the Kingdom of Thailand to enhance friendly relations between the Lao and Thai peoples.

In addition, the Lao side reiterated the settlement of border problems and the problem of those ill-intentioned elements that have hidden in Thailand and created obstacles to friendly relations between the peoples of the two countries. The two sides agreed to make efforts to promote and improve friendly relations and expand the roles of the legislative institutions in order to contribute to strengthening Lao-Thai relations and cooperation during the next stage. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Delegation Meets Nouhak Phoumsavan

BK0202032494 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Yesterday, His Excellency [H.E.] President Nouhak Phoumsavan received a courtesy call from the high-level delegation of the House of Representatives of the Kingdom of Thailand, headed by H.E. Marut Bunnak, speaker of the House of Representatives and president of the Parliament of the Kingdom of Thailand, at the Presidential Office in Vientiane. The Thai parliamentary delegation is paying an official visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR].

The conversation was conducted under an atmosphere of goodwill and intimate friendship of brotherliness. H.E. President Nouhak Phoumsavan expressed his appreciation for the visit, adding: This is the first significant visit ever paid to Laos by a delegation from the Thai legislature—the true representative of the Thai people. The president also emphasized that the visit also marked a new step in the development of brotherly relations between the Lao and Thai peoples, which have been strengthened further in each field through the exchange of visits by delegations of the two countries at various levels. President Nouhak Phoumsavan took the opportunity to wish the visitors brilliant success. He expressed confidence that the visit will contribute prominently to strengthening the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, especially between the legislatures.

On the same occasion, H.E. Thai Parliamentary President Marut Bunnak expressed satisfaction and profound

thanks to the president for according him a warm welcome. He informed the president of the outcome of the talks held between the LPDR and Thai parliamentary delegations, saying that the event contributed to creating a sense of good understanding and an excellent foundation for further developing and enhancing the relations of friendship and cooperation between the legislatures.

H.E. Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the LPDR National Assembly, was also present during the courtesy call.

Accompanying H.E. Thai Parliamentary President Marut Bunnak during the courtesy call was H.E. Somphan Kokilanon, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to the LPDR.

Thai Delegation Head Speaks

BK0202062694 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Speech by Marut Bunnak, president of the Thai Parliament and speaker of the House of Representatives, at a banquet in Vientiane on 1 February—recorded, in Thai]

[Text] I would like to thank Your Excellency Saman Vi-gnaket as well as the Lao National Assembly, Government, and people for giving me and my party an honorable and warm welcome from the moment we set foot on this land.

Laos and Thailand have maintained close and brotherly relations since ancient times. The peoples of the two countries have maintained close contact and have constantly exchanged cultural and artistic visits. Particularly in linguistic and cultural exchanges, the peoples of the two countries are able to speak to each other in their own languages and with a profound understanding. Far from being weak, our relations are always strengthening—especially in the economic field, where a great deal of trade has been conducted between our two countries. The Lao-Thai Mekong Friendship Bridge will officially open in the near future, greatly facilitating mutual contacts and visits between the brotherly Lao and Thai peoples. I firmly believe that once the Friendship Bridge opens, our two peoples will gradually increase their trade contacts and visits with each other. I hope I will have the opportunity to use this bridge to lead another Thai parliamentary delegation to Laos.

The purpose of our current visit to Laos is to bring the Thai people's best wishes to our Lao brothers and further strengthen relations between our two countries' legislative institutions.

On this occasion, I would like to invite Your Excellency Saman Vi-gnaket to lead a Lao National Assembly delegation on an official visit to Thailand at your convenience as guests of the Thai Parliament, so that we can exchange further views and develop mutual understanding. In addition, I would like to stress that if Your Excellency and the distinguished members of the Lao National Assembly require any cooperation from our delegation or from the Thai Parliament for the sake of mutual benefit and close relations between our two peoples, feel free to inform our delegation of your request. I assure your that my party and I will do our best to fulfill your wishes.

At this time, I would like to invite Your Excellencies to toast the health of His Excellency Lao President Nouhak Phoumsavan, His Excellency Saman Vi-gnaket, and everyone at this banquet. May the good relations between our two countries last forever. [applause]

Saman Vi-gnaket Address

BK0202062594 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Speech by National Assembly Chairman Saman Vi-gnaket at a banquet in honor of the visiting Thai parliamentary delegation in Vientiane on 1 February—recorded]

[Text] On behalf of myself and the multiethnic Lao people, my wife and I are very proud to have the honor of welcoming Your Excellency the President [Thai Parliamentary President Marut Bunnak], your wife, and your party. We regard your high-level visit to our country as a good omen for friendly relations between the Lao and Thai peoples, especially between our two legislative institutions. We firmly believe that the successful talks held this afternoon in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding will be an important factor in building and strengthening the time-honored, fine, traditional relations between Laos and Thailand.

Your Excellency, ladies, gentlemen, and distinguished quests: The ties between the Lao and Thai peoples are based on a spirit of close brotherliness and neighborliness that has existed traditionally since ancient times. This was noted in the speech by His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet the Great at a banquet in honor of His Excellency [H.E.] Kaysone Phomvihan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], on 6 January 1992. The king observed: Relations between our states and peoples are so close that they have become inseparable; this bond makes us close relatives. In his speech at the same banquet, H.E. President Kaysone Phomvihan said: It is clear that if we uphold the spirit of close brotherliness and neighborliness, avoid developing a sense of animosity and ill intentions toward each other, and firmly adhere to the teachings of the Lord Buddha and the five principles of peaceful coexistence, we can be certain that any conflict between Laos and Thailand will be resolved.

In this spirit, and in our capacity as the legislative organizations of the two countries, I believe we will continue to encourage all concerned sectors to solve the problems between our countries. This will keep our

relations smooth forever and further deepen the affection and solidarity between the fraternal Lao and Thai peoples.

On this auspicious occasion, I invite Your Excellency the President, your wife, your party, and all our distinguished guests to make a toast: To the happiness of His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet the Great, her majesty the queen, and all the members of the Royal Family of the Kingdom of Thailand; the good health of His Excellency LPDR President Nouhak Phoumsavan; the health and happiness of Your Excellency the President, your wife, and your party; the health of all the ladies, gentlemen, and distinguished guests at this banquet; and the health and prosperity of the Lao and Thai peoples.

Radio Lists Banquet Guests

BK0202030994 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0009 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Attending the banquet in addition to vice chairmen and heads of the various commissions of the LPDR National Assembly were also H.E. Phao Bounnaphon, minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office; H.E. Somsavat Lengsavat, foreign affairs minister; H.E. Boun-gnang Volachit, lord mayor of Vientiane Municipality; and H.E. Khamphai Boupha, president of the Laos-Thailand Friendship Association. Aside from members of the Thai parliamentary delegation, H.E. Somphan Kokilanon, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to Laos, also attended the banquet. [passage omitted]

Philippines

Government, MNLF Sign Cease-Fire Pact 30 Jan

BK0202102294 Quezon City MALAYA in English 31 Jan 94 p 1

[Text] The government yesterday signed a cease-fire agreement with the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] in another step toward ending the secessionist war that has killed more than 50,000 people over the last 20 years.

Ambassador Manuel Yan, the chief government negotiator in the talks with the MNLF Chairman Nur Misuari, signed the agreement after a government panel finished studying it. Misuari signed the agreement on Wednesday. Government officials said Yan did not immediately sign to give senior officials time to review the pact. The 10-page accord covers 13 provinces in Mindanao and Palawan.

Hostile actions banned under the agreement include kidnapping, hijacking, piracy, bombings, grenade throwing, aircraft bomb attacks, artillery shelling, and naval gunfire. The MNLF will also identify the location and unit commanders of its forces so responsibility for any violation of the agreement can easily be pinpointed.

Security Increased, ABB Hunted After Bombings

BK0202065594 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] President Ramos has directed the Department of Interior and Local Government to conduct an intensive manhunt for members of the Alex Boncayao Brigade [ABB] responsible for bombings of the offices of Petron, Caltex and Shell. The Philippine National Police is undertaking several security measures to prevent the repetition of yesterday's bombings.

President Ramos has also ordered more police visibility in strategic locations following the bombings by communist rebels. He appealed to the people to stay calm as the national police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines are tracking down the bombers. The president was airborne on his way to Calaban, Mindoro, when the three bombs exploded. The taxi driver hired by the suspects was picked up by the police shortly after the explosions in Makati. He is now undergoing interrogation to help probers identify the bombers.

Press Secretary Jess [Jesus] Sison said the violence being perpetrated by the ABB will worsen the situation and may affect the peace process. Sison urged the people to remain calm and to bring their complaints to the proper authorities and through legal means. Earlier, the ABB claimed responsibility for the bombings of the oil companies' offices.

Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief General Lisandro Abadia said that the military will fully support the national police in its efforts to capture the bombers. Abadia said the armed forces will not tolerate and allow these lawless elements to sow terror among the public. The armed forces chief said that the public should not be unduly alarmed by these attacks as the military is conducting normal security measures to prevent its repetition.

Meantime, Energy Secretary Delfin Lazaro has assured that adequate military measures are in place on vital facilities of National Power Corporation, Philippine National Oil Company and the Energy Regulatory Board. Lazaro said strict security is being implemented in all energy offices to ensure adequate protection for every official.

Police and the military are now under red alert following yesterday's bombings of the offices of three oil companies. The Philippine National Police has put into effect Opian [operation plan] Lawaan, in anticipation of several unrests over the oil price increase. [Interior Secretary] Alunan said the violence could send wrong signals to foreign investors.

Software Alliance Plans More Anti-Piracy Raids

BK0202115694 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 29 Jan 94 p 17

[Text] More raids against companies suspected of selling and using illegal software will be enforced in the coming

weeks and throughout the year by the Business Software Alliance (BSA), a coalition of the world's leading software publishers.

"These businesses should be aware that dealing in infringing software is a serious crime in the Philippines and no effort will be spared in tracking down firms that sell our members' products without authorization," BSA Vice President Ron Eckstrom told reporters yesterday. BSA investigators along with the Philippine National Police began the raids last year. Their first casualties were four retail outlets of Brochiere, a leading computer and software retailer in the country. Seized were some 4,000 floppy diskettes and 25 hard disks containing suspected illegal software published by BSA members Lotus and Microsoft. Eckstrom pointed out that Brochiere was merely one of the many retail firms in the country that openly disregard the law.

He added that the BSA will urge the courts to impose the most severe penalties available under the law against any firm found guilty of software piracy.

Thailand

U.S. Rice Sale to Cote d'Ivoire Protested

BK0202023494 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Feb 94 p 15

[Text] Thailand has protested the American sale of 10,000 tons of high-grade rice at a low subsidised price to Cote d'Ivoire because it adversely impacts Thailand's rice market.

A Commerce Ministry source said M.R. Napthon Thongyai of the Commercial Counsellor's Office in Washington wrote to the US State Department opposing the $5-million sale. Under a special assistance programme, the payment period will be 30 years with a grace period of seven years at no interest.

Last November, the US sold 35,000 tons of rice worth $10 million to the African nation under the same programme that did not adversely impact the Thai rice market because that sale was of a lower-quality rice, the source said. Cote d'Ivoire imported 200,400 tons of rice from Thailand in 1992 and anticipates imports of 215,000 tons this year.

Further on Prasong's Visit to Argentina

BK0202022694 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Feb 94 p 2

[Text] Thailand and Argentina agreed to increase bilateral relations on economics, trade and investment and target to boost trading volume this year, according to a Foreign Ministry press statement released yesterday.

The 1994 target was set at US$100-200 million per year from the current record of US$66 million, during the discussion held last Friday between visiting Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri and Argentine Acting Foreign Minister Armando Caro, the statement said. Thailand's imports from Argentina include cotton, steel, aluminium, computer hardware and military goods while exports are cloths, textiles, furniture and gems.

During the meeting, the Thai side also proposed to form a mechanism to provide regular consultations between high-level officials of the two countries and exchanges of trade representatives and diplomatic officials, said the statement.

In a separate discussion with Deputy Foreign Minister Ferdinand Enrique Petrella, Argentina briefed Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong on the Falklands dispute which escalated into a war between Argentina and the United Kingdom in 1981. Both sides exchanged opinions on various issues such as the negotiations of the Uruguay Round's General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs, the cooperation under the Cairns group, the Nuclear Non- Proliferation Treaty, and the activities of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the statement added.

Bunchu Denies Rifts in Government Coalition

BK0202022994 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Feb 94 p 7

[Excerpt] Despite reports of deepening differences between the Phalang Tham Party [PDP] and the Democrats over policy, Deputy Premier Bunchu Rotchanasathian says the perception of rifts in the Government is mistaken, and the real problem is with the bureaucracy which implements the policy. Even though there were reports of conflicts, relations in the Cabinet have always been good, said Mr Bunchu in an interview with the BANGKOK POST.

The Phalang Tham leader's optimism is in stark contrast to ongoing heated debate on his party's drive for the election of provincial governors which, observers say, could seriously threaten the unity of the Chuan Likphai coalition government.

Prime Minister Chuan last week invited leaders and secretaries-general of coalition parties to a meeting as the debate heated up. Mr Bunchu said the purpose of the meeting was not to reduce conflicts among coalition parties as reported. Instead the leaders discussed ways to convey to the public an understanding that all coalition members are on good terms.

Coalition conflicts over decentralisation policy, if escalated, could make a recent prediction on Phalang Tham's future in the coalition come true. Political activist and university lecturer Thirayut Bunmi predicted that a government crisis may arise between the PDP and other coalition parties this year over either the governor election proposal or traffic problems. And as a result the PDP may decide to leave the coalition.

Mr Bunchu dismissed the prediction. Mr Thirayut's analysis, he said, was based on inaccurate assumptions.

"He has to make more clarifications on what would be the causes and conditions under which Phalang Tham could no longer stay in the Government." He says his party has not changed its policy on decentralisation of government. It has called for direct election of provincial governors—the same system now used in Bangkok. But the party has to accept the Government's decentralisation policy which is stated more loosely, because it was in the minority when the policy was drawn up, he said.

Even though the party was not satisfied with that, it had to accept the policy because it was collectively decided. Mr Bunchu said he had tried to explain to party members that Phalang Tham policy and that of the Government still share the same goal of decentralising power. The Deputy Premier also said delay in implementation of the policy is caused by the Interior Ministry, which was assigned to carry it out. This has led people to think that the Government is not sincere in carrying out its plan for decentralisation.

"People have got the wrong impression that one coalition party wants decentralisation while another stalls. This is not true. Bureaucratic mechanisms are necessary for implementation (of the policy)," he said. The Interior Ministry, he said, has been told to speed up implementation. [passage omitted]

Vietnam

Vo Van Kiet on Thrift, Anticorruption Campaigns

BK0202063794 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] On the occasion of the Vietnamese lunar new year, a VNA correspondent interviewed Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet on the struggle to practice thrift and oppose corruption and waste, which he emphasized recently at the Ninth National Assembly's fourth session and at the government meeting in Ho Chi Minh City in early January.

Regarding efforts to practice thrift and oppose waste, the prime minister said this is a major issue that will have a direct impact on production, business, and the daily life of units and laborers. According to the prime minister, the task must be carried out from the top down to the lowest levels. Efforts must be made to showcase good examples from among the cadres and party members, while measures must be taken to improve the organization of agencies and motivate the people to abide by the law.

The prime minister urged sectors and agencies to strive to promote thrift and oppose waste in production and business at each organization and enterprise, and to make this a widespread and far-reaching movement among the people during the new stage. He said: Efforts must be made to save capital in order to achieve industrialization and modernization. This is part of the cause of building a prosperous people, a strong nation, and an advanced society. He contended that it is time for all localities to practice thrift. The mass media should commend good deeds and denounce waste and lavish spending. He said that the mass media plays an important role in this regard, and that the results of these tasks should be reviewed periodically to draw on experience and formulate measures to carry out work more effectively. Efforts should be made to renovate work styles and design additional concrete measures, while opposing feasts being organized to celebrate anniversaries or welcome high-ranking officials when they visit the provinces and municipalities. He stressed that this will save the people's time, energy, and money.

Pham The Duyet Addresses Hanoi Party Meeting

BK0202144394 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Report on a meeting to mark the 64th CPV anniversary in Hanoi on 2 February—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Dear friends: This morning, 2 February, the Hanoi party committee, people's committee, and fatherland front held a solemn meeting to mark the 64th anniversary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV]—3 February 1930 to 3 February 1994—at the Vietsov Friendship Cultural Palace in an atmosphere welcoming the New Year and the success of the Midterm National Party Conference [MNPC].

Attending the meeting were CPV Advisers Pham Van Dong and Vo Chi Cong, Le Duc Anh, Vo Van Kiet, Nong Duc Manh, Nguyen Duc Binh, General Vo Nguyen Giap, many high-level party and government cadres, and representatives of all central and Hanoi sectors and departments. Comrade Pham The Duyet, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the Hanoi party committee, delivered a speech recalling the glorious tradition of our party in the past 64 years. He said:

"Right from its birth, our party firmly held the revolutionary banner and outlined a correct platform to widely gather and unite people from all walks of life and lead them to the victory of the August Revolution, establishing the first worker-peasant government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in Southeast Asia.

"Then the party successfully led a nine-year resistance war against the French colonialists, opening an era of the disintegration of the Old Colonialist System in the world. After the Geneva Agreement in 1954, the party led our people to hold high the banner of national independence and socialism to simultaneously carry out the two revolutions: the socialist revolution in North Vietnam and the national democratic revolution in South Vietnam for the national unification.

"That correct line became the revolutionary action of our people. It led our people to the great victory in 1975,

liberating South Vietnam and unifying our nation for the whole country to move forward to socialism.

"In the socialist revolution, our party has exerted many efforts to study, search, and invent for the outlining of correct socialist lines, goals, and directions. Sometimes it committed mistakes. Our party seriously criticized itself and initiated and led a national renovation undertaking in all social aspects at the Sixth National CPV Congress. The Seventh National CPV Congress developed the Sixth National CPV Congress's renovation line to continue taking the renovation undertaking into new depths.

"The result of the implementation of the Seventh National CPV Congress resolution was evaluated at the recent MNPC. The conference confirmed that we have scored very important achievements. The great achievement with a paramount meaning is the overcoming in an important step our socioeconomic crisis. Three years on the road, our economy scored a fairly good developing rates. The average annual development rate was 7.2 percent. Inflation, from two digits in earlier years, reduced to 5.2 percent in 1993. The life of major part of the people has been stabilized and partly improved. Those achievements have positively contributed to the firm maintenance and consolidation of political stabilization, a necessary condition for national construction and development.

"In recent years, due to the successful renovation and the broadening of our external relations, our reputation and position of our country in the world has been improved, creating favorable conditions for the national construction and protection."

The Hanoi party committee secretary confirmed that the aforementioned great achievements have created a premise for our country to move to a new developing era, an era for the first step of the national industrialization and modernization. After confirming the achievements recorded by the Hanoi party committee and people in the past year, Comrade Pham The Duyet stressed:

"With its role and position outlined at the Six National Party Congress, the Hanoi party committee has actively led the people in the implementation of the renovation undertaking. The recent 11th Hanoi party committee meeting unanimously evaluated and found that in 1993, under the party and government leadership, the Hanoi people have recorded great achievements. That is the maintenance of political security and social order. The economy continued to score new achievements with fairly good development rates. Its gross domestic product increased 11.2 percent over 1992. Nearly 30,000 new jobs were created. The Hanoi average production per head increased from $517 in 1992 to $565 in 1993. Hanoi industrial production reached its highest level so far. Education and training service; cultural, arts, physical education, and sports activities; public health care; and other social welfare service achieved prominent progress compared to the previous years. Hanoi party and government and mass organizations widely expanded many public movements for the implementation of political, economic, and social duties in the past year."

Comrade Pham The Duyet pointed out the strengths and weaknesses in socioeconomic development scored by the Hanoi party and people in the past and stressed party building work. He said:

"The Hanoi and local party committee accelerated their leadership, considering the party renovation and rectification an important task for 1993. They implemented suitable steps and measures and reviewed their work regularly to learn from experiences in wards, villages, state enterprises, colleges, and so forth.

"Party building, renovation, and rectification work, however, still bears many shortcomings. Many problems have not been solved adequately. Various party organizations especially still are confused in their leadership content and method. Cadre planning and training was carried out, but did not receive appropriate attention and investment.

"Our party tirelessly has struggled, explored, and innovated, thus achieving great and glorious victories throughout the 64 years of its history."

The Hanoi party committee secretary then outlined the socioeconomic targets that set forth by the Hanoi party committee for 1994. He also reasserted the determination of the Hanoi party organization and people to bring the MNPC resolution to reality and to fulfill all socioeconomic targets. In his conclusion, Comrade Pham The Duyet said:

"In developing our party's glorious revolution traditions, the Hanoi party organization and people pledge to closely unite around the party Central Committee led by our beloved Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi, to continue our renovation undertaking, to advance further in the industrialization and modernization process, to fulfill the socioeconomic targets set forth by the Seventh Party Congress, and to make Hanoi become evermore prosperous and civilized on the socialist path, deserving the trust of the people in Hanoi and in the entire country. We will greet the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Hanoi and other national holidays in 1994-95 with practical action."

Nong Duc Manh Sees Outgoing Indonesian Envoy

BK0102145994 Hanoi VNA in English 1432 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 1—National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh received here this afternoon Indonesian Ambassador to Vietnam Mr. Juana who paid him a farewell visit at the end of his term of office in Vietnam. At the reception, Chairman Nong Duc Manh highly valued Mr. Juana's contributions to the promotion of the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Indonesia. Chairman Manh asked Indonesian

ambassador to convey his regards to Indonesian leaders and wished for further development of friendship and cooperation between the states, the legislatures and the people of the two countries, thus contributing to the peace, stability and prosperity in the region and the world as a whole.

Deputy Prime Minister Sees Romanian Delegation

BK0102145594 Hanoi VNA in English 1439 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb.1—Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh received here this afternoon an economic delegation of the Romanian government led by Mr. Cristian Ioneseu, minister of trade and chairman of the Romania's Sub-Committee of the Romania-Vietnam Inter Governmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation, currently on a visit to Vietnam to attend the 14th session of the commission. Minister Cristian Ioneseu informed Deputy Prime Minister Khanh of the activities of the commission and the results and solutions of the problems put forth at the commission's meeting, thus pushing up the economic, scientific and technological cooperation between Vietnam and Romania. He expressed his hope that possibilities and potentials of each country would be a basis for new development of such relation in the interests of the two peoples. For his party, Deputy P.M. Khanh affirmed that the Vietnamese Government and people always attach great importance to the existing relations between Vietnam and Romania. He expressed his belief that the current meeting of the commission would actively contribute to the further development of the cooperation between the two countries.

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